

EXCHANGES:
Closing Quotations—
T.T. London 24/11/4d.
On Demand 24/11/4d.

The Hongkong Telegraph

WEATHER FORECAST
FAIR.
Barometer 30.08

February 9, 1918. Temperature 6 a.m. 55° 2 p.m. 85°
Humidity

(ESTABLISHED 1881.)
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February 9, 1917. Temperature 6 a.m. 46° 2 p.m. 57°
Humidity 63 53

7874 廿月二十

SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1918.

大拜禮 號九月二英港香

SINGLE COPY 10 CENTS
\$36 PER ANNUM.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE LOSS OF THE TUSCANIA.

Splendid Behaviour of American Troops.

London, February 8.
Reuter learns that the Tuscania was torpedoed ten miles from the coast. The discipline was magnificent. No other vessel in the convoy was hit. Survivors state that American soldiers lined up on the deck and sang their National Air. The crew responded with "God Save the King."

The work of lowering the boats was hampered by a tremendous list. A number of lives were lost by the capsizing of one or two of the first boats and by a raft thrown on top of them. An American officer, interviewed, said:—"The Hun has killed only a fraction of our fine fellows, but they have put iron into our souls which we will repeat when the chance offers."

As an instance of the order prevailing, two typhoid and two pneumonia cases were landed safely. An engineer of the vessel, interviewed in Glasgow, says that he saw a raft picked up, on which five men were lashed. Only two were alive. He was in a leaky collapsible boat with thirty-six others and they were up to their waists in water before they were found.

The majority of the casualties were probably due to men leaping from the decks into the sea with lifebelts, and they were lost in the darkness.

America's Determination.

London, February 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Washington, Mr. Baker, Secretary for War, in a statement, says:—"Losses like the Tuscania unite the country in a more determined purpose to press on. We must and will win this war."

Effect of the Disaster.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at New York states that the torpedoing of the Tuscania has evoked universal execration and promises to wake up the nation to the actuality of war as nothing has yet done. The newspapers generally hail the lost Americans as heroes who perished in a noble cause.

The Evening Sun voices the general sentiment by saying:—"The American people entered the war knowing from two years' watching what it means. Now that its dread obligations are brought home to them they don't blanch with fear. This misfortune will steel their courage and resolution to exact just retribution from enemy civilisation."

The Skipper Saved.

London, February 8.
It is now unofficially estimated that less than 150 people are missing from the Tuscania. The skipper, Captain McLean, was saved.

RUSSIAN AFFAIRS.

Is the Grand Duke Nicholas Dead?

London, February 8.
It was a German newspaper report from Petrograd that contained the news that the ex-Generalissimo, Grand Duke Nicholas, is dead. The French newspapers state that it was Nicholas Constantinovitch, cousin of the ex-Generalissimo.

The New Cossack Army.

London, February 8.
The Times correspondent at Petrograd states that General Kaledin has relinquished the leadership of the Cossacks in favour of General Alexeiev, who has organised a separate army of 30,000 to march against the Bolsheviks. There has been some disagreement between General Kaledin and General Alexeiev and the former has disappeared.

It is estimated that 40,000 of the younger Cossacks are now in favour of the Bolsheviks.

A Riot in Petrograd.

London, February 8.
There was an outbreak of drunken savagery at Petrograd after the great religious demonstration, 500 armed hooligans looting wine cellars, a church and a house. The riot spread to the streets. Numerous jewellers' and other shops were plundered. The regular troops were brought up to quell the disorder. There was fighting all night. It is estimated that 120 were killed.

Troops for Breslitovsk.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam states that, according to the Kölnische Zeitung, a detachment of Russian troops from Bukovina is proceeding to Breslitovsk.

MR. ROOSEVELT SERIOUSLY ILL.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at New York states that Mr. Roosevelt is suffering from abscesses in both ears. He has been operated on, and his condition is serious.

THE WESTERN FRONT.

London, February 8.
A French communique states:—"An enemy attack at daybreak on a small post north of Craonne was repulsed. The Germans followed up the bombardment reported in the morning on the right bank of the Meuse and in Alsace with three surprise attacks east of Samogneux, on the northern side of Fosse Wood and south of Hartmanns-Willerskopf. All were repulsed."
Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports:—"There is hostile artillery activity at El Quierres."

AUSTRIAN CABINET RESIGNS.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says it is reported from Vienna that the Austrian Cabinet has resigned, owing, it is believed, to the opposition to the two months' provisional Budget, whereby the majority for the Budget became doubtful.

GREEK MONARCH'S SPEECH.

London, February 8.
According to Reuter's correspondent at Athens, while en route from the Macedonia front the King addressed the troops at Lania. He deplored the mutiny and urged the necessity of supporting the Government, enabling Greece to do her duty and aid the Allies. The speech was very enthusiastically received.

REUTER'S TELEGRAMS.

THE COMING GERMAN OFFENSIVE.

Has the Enemy Something Up his Sleeve?

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at French Headquarters states that the military question overshadowing all others is where the Germans intend to strike on the Western Front. The enemy must recognise the costliness and doubtfulness of an offensive in the West, however great, but the reasons impelling him thereto seem to outweigh counsels of prudence. If he cannot get peace on his own terms, he must get on with the war, and in six months the American Army will have restored the balance of strength in favour of the Allies. So we must expect at no distant date as heavy a blow as the Germans, with whatever assistance they can extort from their reluctant Allies, can deal. Where will the blow fall? A decision cannot be reached in Italy; moreover, the German forces there were halved a score as the fighting became established in the mountains. There are probably not more than five German Divisions in Italy now. On the other hand, the enemy is undoubtedly assembling men and material in France, but if the prospects of a second Verdun are uninviting, is the enemy likely to attempt it?

The correspondent proceeds to suggest that the enemy may have something up his sleeve—some new method, or some new weapon which he thinks may prove decisive.

PEACE WITH RUMANIA.

Desperate Efforts by Central Powers.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says that apparently the Central Powers are about to make desperate efforts to conclude peace with Rumania. The Dacian Zeitung indicates that Berlin conferences have resulted in complete agreement regarding the peace terms to be offered to Rumania. The Essen Allgemeine Zeitung emphasises that the Rumanians must renounce all claim to extension westward and can be compensated for the Bulgarian annexation of the Dobruja, with the south-west corner of Bessarabia, after which the Ukrainians and Rumanians can come to terms provided both unite against the Bolsheviks.

In the Turkish Chamber, the Foreign Minister, Halil Bey, declared that the Straits would remain open for international traffic in the future on the same conditions as the past.

U-BOATS TO BE BEATEN BY AUGUST.

London, February 8.
Admiral Sir John Jellicoe, speaking at Hull, said:—"We are in for a bad time during the next three months, but I believe that if we hold out the submarine menace will be killed by about August."

GERMAN SLAVERY ORDER.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Amsterdam says the Telegraph understands that a German order has been issued on the Flemish coast calling up all males between the ages of thirteen and sixty years for military labour.

WOMEN'S PARTY IDEALS.

London, February 8.
The Women's Party has issued a manifesto stating that their first act as electors is to greet the Allied Nations and pledge themselves to use their votes to secure and liberate oppressed nations, especially Belgium and Serbia. The signatures include some of the chief suffragettes.

FURTHER FOOD PROHIBITION.

London, February 8.
The Food Controller has prohibited the use of oatmeal, oat flour and rolled flake oats for any purpose except for human food.

ITALIAN AERIAL SUCCESS.

London, February 8.
An Italian communique states:—"An airship dropped a ton of bombs on an enemy aerodrome at Montadil Venet with excellent results."

FRANCE AND RAW MATERIALS.

London, February 8.
Reuter's correspondent at Paris states that in the Senate the Minister of Commerce emphasised the necessity of an agreement with the Allies regarding raw materials. He declared:—"We do not dream of creating an aggressive economic league, but we desire to remain masters of our own markets and restrict our raw materials for ourselves, our Allies and friendly neutrals." The Senate passed a resolution urging the Government to seek means of deriving the utmost benefit from raw materials, which is a most important economic weapon and particularly feared by the enemy.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

THE RUSSO-GERMAN NEGOTIATIONS.

London, February 7.
The present position of the negotiations at Breslitovsk is most mysterious. The Bolshevik Headquarters at Petrograd has received no news from Breslitovsk for several days. Assuming that the Russian delegates were prevented from communication with Petrograd, M. Lenin ordered the disconnection of the wire used by the Russo-German delegates in Petrograd.
Messages from Berlin tend to support the belief that the Central Powers will conclude a peace with Ukraine and break off negotiations with the Bolsheviks. They may possibly even resume a state of war.

AERIAL SUCCESSES IN ITALY.

London, February 7.
An Italian official message states:—"Our airships dropped a ton of explosives on an aviation ground south-eastward of Vittorio. The Allies have brought down 25 aeroplanes in the past eleven days."

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

CONTINUED CHAOS IN RUSSIA.

Finland in Grip of Civil War.
Stockholm, February 7.
The White Guards at Wasa report that civil-war is in full swing in Finland. Twenty prominent Helsingfors men have been murdered and properties and farms are daily being burned and pillaged. Unarmed people have been killed, especially in the southwest. The capture of Kemi and Tornio, give a great advantage to the White Guards.

General Alexeiev Reappears.
Petrograd, February 7.
General Alexeiev, with shock troops is reported to be marching northwards and to have occupied a number of stations in the direction of Kharhoff and Boronesh. The Bolshevik Agency reports that the Red Guards captured Tammerfors in Finland after a fierce battle on Feb. 4, wherein 10,000 White Guards, commanded by General Mannerheim were defeated and forced to retire to the west coast of the Gulf of Bothnia.

German Hailed as "Brothers."
Petrograd, February 8.
The Soviet at Petrograd has issued a grandiloquent appeal to the workers of Berlin and Vienna, hailing them as brothers across the barbed-wire barrier, and announcing that the German Socialists, Herr Liebknecht and Herr Adler have been elected Honorary Presidents of the Petrograd Soviet.

What of Ukraine?
London, February 7.
Yesterday's Russian wireless message regarding Ukraine conflicts with reports from other sources.

German Methods Exposed.
Petrograd, February 7.
The Bolshevik News Agency states that the Germans in Riga fraudulently collected 65,000 votes for the incorporation of Riga into Germany and imprisoned 200 suspected Socialists. Many prisoners, even women, were beaten in order to force them to betray their comrades. Women were imprisoned with ten robbers and prostitutes. The economic situation is terrible and the workers are starving.

Terrible Conditions in the Capital.
London, February 7.
The "Times" correspondent at Petrograd says: The Soviet Congress passed in a few minutes laws involving the most fundamental land changes and most complicated social reconstruction. The proceedings were punctuated by the singing "Internationale" and the "Marseillaise." Hunger riots continue and life is extremely nerve-racking. The Red Guards are more feared than the Tsar's police and everyone dreads arrest. There have been searches, seizures and confiscations of money and jewellery and those conducting domiciliary arrests are often thieves in disguise. We cannot cash checks. Amateur clerks muddle the bank accounts and the bank directors have either escaped to Sweden or been arrested. All financial business is at a standstill. The latest decree limits deposits to 25,000 rubles and requires proof that the money was honestly earned. It is proposed to destroy all shares as rubbish. Poor English governesses are running about trying to persuade kind friends to take care of their small savings.

Death of Grand Duke Nicholas.
London, February 8.
A telegram from Petrograd reports the death at Tashkovo on Feb. 8 of the Grand Duke Nicholas, the Russian ex-Commander-in-Chief, under mysterious circumstances.

RUSSIA AND THE SOUTH CHINA REVOLT.

London, February 7.
The "Times" correspondent at Petrograd says the Peoples' Commissioners are discussing the proposal to support the autonomous movement of southern China against the Central Government. The Commissioners propose to send a Commissary to China for this purpose. The object is to produce Socialistic Revolutionary agitations which will break down China's refusal to allow foodstuffs to come to Russia.

THE TUSCANIA TORPEDOED.

Over Two Hundred U.S. Troops Missing.
London, February 7.
The Admiralty states that the Tuscania was torpedoed on Tuesday night off Ireland while carrying American troops, of whom 2,011 soldiers, 141 crew, and 25 others were saved out of a total of 2,397 aboard. The missing number 210.

Submarine Reported Sunk.
Later.
The Tuscania was sunk at 7 o'clock on Tuesday evening. She was one of a convoy of troop and provision ships. Two torpedoes were fired, one missed, but the other hit amidships. The Tuscania listed heavily to starboard, making the proper lowering of the boats impracticable. Some men jumped into the sea and others were thrown into the sea when the boats were lowered. The survivors were taken off or picked up by British destroyers and landed. The Tuscania floated for two hours after being torpedoed. The condition of some of the survivors was pitiable. They threw off their clothes and had been swimming for two hours before being rescued. Three men died from exposure in a boat. An American officer survivor states that the escorting destroyer claims to have sunk the attacking submarine. Only two women were aboard the Tuscania and they were saved.

The Tuscania was a 14,000 ton Anchor liner and was built in 1914. An American officer narrated that after the vessel was struck megaphone calls were circulated that there was no danger of the ship sinking before all were taken off. British destroyers answered the S.O.S. with remarkable celerity. It is believed that a couple of lifeboats were smashed in launching. The narrator decided to "follow the sailors' advice to 'stick aboard and trust John Bull's destroyers' instead of entering a lifeboat. A torpedo was fired at a rescuing destroyer but missed."

BRITISH LABOURITES TO VISIT FRANCE.

London, February 8.
The "Times" states that preparations are being made for British labourites, including Mr. Thomas, M.P., Mr. Will Thorne, M.P., and Mr. Henderson, M.P., to visit Paris to secure an Anglo-French Labour Socialist agreement preparatory to an International Congress in London on Feb. 20, and ultimately another congress in Switzerland.

(Continued on page 8.)

DUST-BIN WEALTH.

Trifles Saved Will Help to Win the War.

How to avoid waste is to be one of the lessons of the economy campaign, and at the Ministry of Food plans are being elaborated. In one department the visitor may see samples of:—

Oils from fish waste.
Potash from banana stalks.
Fats from slaughter-house refuse.
Meat meal for poultry from abattoirs.
Dried house swill for pig and poultry food.
Granulated poultry food from condemned meat.
Gusno fertiliser from condemned fish.
Fish meal and grit for poultry from unsound fish.
Metals from old tins and scraps.
Disinfectant powder from flea dust.

A provincial mayor has collected a box of tin foil, saved from a year's buttonholes, to be converted into tin.

"Liverpool" has plant for extracting poultry and pig foods, as well as fertilisers, from waste. Sheffield and Nottingham specialise in getting iron out of unconsidered trifles, and Nottingham has also during the present year recovered 400 tons of manure from refuse.

Glasgow is systematically salvaging the by-products of waste. Other towns are introducing "digesters," the type of machine in which a dead horse can be tipped, with the result that fat and oils are secured, in addition to dried and prepared animal foods. It is reckoned that the metals found in dustbins total one ton per 1,000 of the population per annum and that annually 250,000 tons of paper are wasted. Nearly everything thrown into the dustbin has a commercial or chemical value. Not a scrap of metal should be cast aside, but all should be sold in ordinary trade channels or handed to any collecting organisation which may be operating in a district.

Dangerous Post Parcel.

At Hove, recently Mrs. Beatrice Mills, wife of a lieutenant, was fined 25 and 25 costs for sending a "live" German hand-grenade by post from Hove to Newcastle-on-Tyne. Her husband brought two bombs home with him when on leave, and both were considered "done." The defendant said a friend in her husband's battalion asked her husband to send a grenade to Newcastle, but as he had no time she did so in ignorance that the grenade was a "live" one.

DONT FORGET.

TO-DAY.

Victoria Theatre; 9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

TO-MORROW.

Victoria Theatre—9.15 p.m.
Bijou Theatre—9.15 p.m.
New Hongkong Cinema—9.15 p.m.

Monday, Feb. 11.
Chinese New Year.

Monday, Feb. 25.
Races Meeting—1st Day.
Tuesday, Feb. 26.
Races Meeting—2nd Day.
Wednesday, Feb. 27.
Races Meeting—3rd Day.

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FOR QUOTATIONS APPLY TO THE
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GENERAL NEWS.

Nobel Prize For Literature.
Stockholm, Nov. 8.—The Nobel
Prize for Literature for 1917 is
to be divided between the Danish
author, Karl Gjellerup, and
Henrik Pontoppidan. Both
authors have made their mark in
fiction. Karl Gjellerup, who is
60 years old, secured his first im-
portant success in 1882 with a
satirical novel, "The Disciple of
the Teachers."

Funeral of Mr. F. Billington.
The funeral of Mr. Fred Bill-
ington took place at Highgate
Cemetery. The principal mourn-
ers were Mr. Curcio, Pounds,
Mr. George Thomas, Mr. A.
Barlow, Mr. Blake, Johnstone, and
Miss Lucy, Cairns. A number of
old members of the D'Oyly Carte
Company were present. Mr.
D'Oyly Carte and Mr. Herbert L.
Balfour, both of whom, and
other born the investigation, "To
dear old Billy, from the D'Oyly
Carte Opera Company."

**London Volunteers in Multi-
On the 4th inst. the London
Volunteers, who were formed
recently, Sir William Dunn, and
formed his last public act as Lord
Mayor by inspecting, O. (West
street) Company, 2nd Battalion,
City of London Volunteers Regi-
ment. The company, which is
composed mainly of men engaged
on newspapers, was under
the command of Captain
Tristram. The men, the
majority of whom were in
multi, paraded in the Temple and
marched to the Mansion House
by way of Fleet street, Ludgate-
hill, Cannon street, and Queen
Victoria street. After inspecting
the company, the Lord Mayor,
who was accompanied by Major
Chamness, commanding the 2nd
Battalion, the adjutant and Cap-
tain Tristram, addressed the
parade, saying that the regiment
had been an unqualified success
and was doing useful work for
the country.**

Pilfering from Transports.
At London Sessions, before Mr.
Laurie, George Elliott, Jim Duke,
a Russian, Jean Baptiste Collins,
a Belgian, and John Long, were
each sentenced to 12 months
imprisonment with hard labour
for receiving rum and bacon
valued at \$23 18s., belonging to
the Government. Duke and
Collins were recommended for
expulsion. The prisoners were
employed as firemen in a ship
carrying provisions for troops in
France. Captain Crawford, Ad-
miralty Transport officer, said
this form of pilfering had been
going on for some months, and
had taken place at most of the
ports where cargo was being
handled.

Motor Hospital Ships for Tigris.
Two motor hospital ships, H.
M. Five and H. M. Six, which
have been constructed in Burn
and Co's shipyard at Howrah,
were launched recently on the
Hooghly. These ships, which
are intended for Mesopotamia,
have been specially designed to
facilitate navigation of the Tigris
from Basra to Baghdad, which is
exceptionally difficult. The or-
iginal designs were made by the
Royal Indian Marine, Bombay,
while the medical arrangements
and details have been designed
and carried out by Brevet
Lieutenant Colonel Carter, I.M.S.
There was no public ceremony.

Welfare of the Blind.
Mr. Hayes Fisher, President
of Local Government Board,
recently received a deputation
from the National League of the
Blind which urged the carrying
out of the recommendations made
by the Inter-Departmental Com-
mittee. Mr. Fisher stated that the
War Cabinet had agreed to the
setting up of a special depart-
ment in the G. P. O. and the G. B.
for Scotland, and had sanctioned
the expenditure required for im-
mediate administrative purposes.
An Advisory Committee for
England and Wales, and one for
Scotland would be established of
which Mr. Stephen Walsh had
consented to act as chairman.
The personnel of the Committee
would be settled very shortly.
It would depend upon the Ad-
visory Committee whether the
schemes prepared were of such
a nature as to secure acceptance
by the Treasury and the War
Cabinet. He proposed to put on
the Committee some other men
representatives and women re-
presentatives.

GENERAL NEWS.

Musical Banquets in Paris.
A group of Basque natives who have arrived in Paris, have caused much interest among Parisians. All have excellent voices, and arrangements have been made for them to sing hymns at a Protestant church.

Cornwall's Loss.

Taking a modest estimate of past losses, said Sir Lionel Phillips, at a conference at the Hotel Metropole, there had been a loss of £85,000,000. There had been recovered £42,000,000, showing a loss of £43,000,000. The average loss per annum over the last ten years had been £4,300,000. The percentage of loss of Cornwall was even higher. The conference was held under the auspices of the Department for the Development of Mineral Resources of the Ministry of Munitions, and it was decided to raise a fund for the purposes of research.

Promotion in the Navy.

An "earnest appeal" has been made to the Government by the commissioned warrant and warrant officers of the Royal Navy. They complain of the lack of promotions from the ranks of the naval democracy during the great war, whilst lieutenancies have been lavishly bestowed upon men who had no pre-war connection with the service, and they submit that all deserving commissioned warrant and warrant officers of every branch, including chief Royal Marine gunners, shall, after five years as such, be promoted to the rank of lieutenant or equivalent rank, being retained in their various specialist appointments either on shore, according to the requirements of the service.

German's Change of Name.

At the Mansion House, before Alderman Sir Alfred Newton, Carl Franz Martin Hoepstein, 58, a manufacturer's agent, was charged, as an alien enemy, with having unlawfully assumed a name other than that by which he was known at the beginning of the war. He pleaded "Guilty." It was stated by the City Police that the defendant was a German subject, born at Leipzig. Before the war he traded in his own name, but early in 1915 the defendant, with a son who had taken the family name of Linchester by deed poll, started business as "Linchester and Co." Mr. E. J. Purchase, defending, said Mr. Hoepstein had lived in England since 1880. He married an English woman, and had two sons in the Army. A third son, who was in the Mercantile Marine, was a prisoner of war in Germany, having been captured by the Kaiser's Moors. The Home Office Advisory Committee had exempted him from internment. Sir Alfred Newton imposed a fine of £100, with the alternative of 81 days imprisonment.

Armless Motorist.

Driving a motor-car through the streets of London (says the Daily News) you may happen any day to see a young French officer, Lieut. Lerat, by name. He wears the ribbons of the Legion of Honour, and of the Croix de Guerre (with two of the Verdun Army stripes)—but he has no hands, only stumps. Instead of arms, and but a single eye. Lieut. Lerat is the possessor of a pair of "Cape" mechanical arms, hence the apparent miracle. He showed a Daily News reporter how he can take a matchbox out of his pocket, light a cigarette, how he can write a letter rapidly and legibly, how he can raise his cup with his left hand, while shaking hands with the right, and perform many other similar surprises. Thousands of Cape hands and arms are already being used in France. Indeed, twenty-five French officers wearing the appliances, including several airmen, are actually back at the front. The new arms are to be carefully compared with the best that can be produced at Southampton. The Cape limbs are controlled through Bowden wires (similar to those used for bicycle brakes), by movements of the shoulder and lower chest muscles. A fully equipped hand and forearm of this pattern only weighs 1½ lb.

NOTICES.

VICTOR RECORDS

THE RECORDS OF QUALITY.

LARGE SUPPLEMENT

JUST RECEIVED.

GIVE US A CALL AND MAKE

YOUR SELECTION.

MOUTRIE'S,

VICTOR AGENTS.



DON'T FIGHT AGAINST DEFECTIVE EYESIGHT.

N. LAZARUS

OPHTHALMIC OPTICIAN
28, Queen's Road Central.

FOOD SMUGGLERS OF VIENNA.

Austrians Scouring Hungary for Food.

A correspondent recently in Hungary writes to the Daily Chronicle as follows:—
In the western towns of Hungary a good deal of bitter feeling has been aroused against the Austrians by the swarms of visitors from Vienna and other parts of Austria who have invaded Hungary and increased the shortage of food there. This they do in two different ways. One way is to come in great crowds, "like locusts," as the newspaper says, and settle down upon every hotel and restaurant, devouring all they can lay hands upon, sometimes staying for a day or a week and at other times taking apartments and staying for a considerable period. The second way is to buy up and carry away great quantities of food-stuffs.

As the export of food has been severely restricted of late, and as certain articles of food are most jealously guarded, the Vienna visitors have developed quite an elaborate system of smuggling. Some of the dodges of these amateur smugglers are amusing. The authorities now have quite a large collection of confiscated double bottomed boxes, trunks, and portmanteaus, in the secret recesses of which a considerable quantity of lard, butter, honey, jam, fruit, or green vegetables have been smuggled out from the country.

At a time when lard was very scarce milk was fairly plentiful, so lard was melted and poured into large milk-cans, and when it was set a small quantity of milk was poured over it just to cover the lard, so that the officials should not see it.
The high-crowned ladies' hats turned out to be hollow earthenware boxes containing eggs. Several times babies in arms were carried most carefully and lovingly while the "mothers" passed the officials, the little heads daintily covered with a lace veil in order to conceal the fact that the head was only that of a large wax doll, while the long clothes covered a hare, a leg of mutton, a pickled and trussed goose or duck, &c.

Of the "locusts" or eating tourists, the burgomaster of the town of Pozsony told the correspondent of the Pest Naplo that some of them rush down from Vienna by the electric tram, eat a substantial meal, enough for a whole day, and then rush back again. Pozsony is only a short journey from Vienna, with which it is connected by an electric railway, so that it is quite easy for crowds from the Viennese capital to pour into the town.

Still more persistent are those who take rooms for a month or two simply with the aim of eating more heartily than they could in Vienna, where food is bad and scarce.

The burgomaster, on finding that hundreds of apartment holders had come to Pozsony simply with this aim, ordered that those who desired to make a stay in the town were to bring their own provisions.

The number of visitors diminished at once, but even this means was not drastic enough. Then it had to be ordered that coffee, milk, and tea should only be served at certain hours, because many of the Viennese families used to migrate from one cafe to another, making as many as four breakfasts, after which they would begin a systematic raid on the luncheon places.

This meant that the Hungarians, when they went to the restaurants and cafes in the evening, found that there was nothing to be had, the Austrian invaders having cleared off all the provisions.

Even Budapest has suffered from the evil, and has had to expel both Germans and Austrians from its midst.

Vienna has made a most bitter complaint concerning the restriction placed upon hungry Austrian visitors to Hungarian towns. A Hungarian newspaper, referring to this says: "Our own people coming up from the country towns to the capital can hardly find hotel accommodation, because of the foreign 'esters' who inundate the hotels. At a time when all classes of the people are suffering from the shortage of food, it is only natural that the ravenously eating visitors from abroad should be looked upon as undesirable aliens."

Prepaid Advertisements.

ONE CENT PER WORD

FOR EACH INSERTION.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—Furnished, CRAGSIDE, 149, Barker Road, Peak, grass Tennis Court, for 5 months from 7th June next. Apply to H. Skelton, Lane, Crawford & Co.

TO BE LET.—A FLAT in Nathan Road, Kowloon. FOUR ROOMED-HOUSES in Kowloon.

Apply to—
HUMPHREYS ESTATE & FINANCIAL CO., LTD.,
Alexandra Buildings.

TO BE LET.—HOUSES on SHAMSHAN, CANTON. OFFICES in York Buildings.

Apply to—
THE HONGKONG LAND INVESTMENT & AGENCY CO., LTD.

TO BE LET.

TO BE LET.—A LARGE ROOM on 2nd floor of Prince's Building. Apply to—H. M. H. Nemesse.

TO BE LET.—FURNISHED HOUSE at Mount Davis, Pokfulam Road, for February, March and April. Rent moderate. Apply H. E. Goldsmith, P.W.D.

WANTED.

WANTED.—Two or three LARGE OFFICE ROOMS in Central Locality. Apply to—Tong Seng & Co., 19, Queen's Road, Central, Telephone No. 976.

DANCE CIRCLE.—Spend a pleasant evening, Monday and Thursday, 9 P.M., 31, Queen's Road Central, ground floor, next door, Hongkong Cinema. Gentlemen \$1 Ladies 50 cent.

NOTICES.

HIGH RENTS AND PRICES.

Investigations to be made in Bombay.

Bombay, January 16.—The Governor met a number of representative citizens of Bombay yesterday evening at the Secretariat to discuss the question of high prices and exorbitant rents prevailing in Bombay with a view to remedying a real and growing difficulty and anxiety.

Lord Willingdon traced the causes of high prices and explained the measures which are under contemplation to check them. He said that some restriction as regards house rent appeared to be absolutely necessary, but that at the same time Government were not blind to the necessity for constructive action to increase available accommodation and encourage building in Saleette. He announced that Government proposed to appoint a Controller and receive ward committees for inquiring into complaints about the increase of high rents and prices of foodstuffs and other articles of daily necessity.

Docket Court—Martilled.

Dr. F. Fairbairn, of Hampstead, who was court-martialled at Wimbledon Barracks on November 2 for refusing to obey military orders, was recently taken to Wormwood Scrubbs prison to serve six months' hard labour. In his defence he stated:—"My reasons for not joining the R.A.M.C. are that I hold that as an officer in the R.A.M.C. my chief duty would not be the alleviation of suffering, but of preparing men to return to the slaughter. In their own interest I believe my right course is to prevent their suffering."

NOTICES.

NOTICE.

ROYAL HONGKONG GOLF CLUB, FANLING.

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.
BANKERS' CUP. February 9th to 12th inclusive. Bogey Competition for men. Main Course.

MIXED FOURPOME. February 9th to 12th inclusive. Relief Course. Twice Round. Medal Play. HANDICAP: Half of Total Handicap.
ENTRANCE FEES for both Competitions will be given to War Charities.
1st and 2nd Prizes kindly presented.
JOHN BENTLEY,
Hon. Secretary,
Hongkong 8th February, 1918.

NOTICE.

THE UNITED BRITISH INSURANCE CO., LTD
(Incorporated in the United Kingdom)

HAVING been appointed MARINE AGENTS to the above Company, we are prepared to ACCEPT RISKS and issue Policies at Current Rates.

UNION TRADING CO.,
Agents,
Queen's Buildings,
Hongkong, 1st February, 1918.

FIRE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all FIRE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on MONDAY & TUESDAY the 11th and 12th instant.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 8th February, 1918.

MARINE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION OF HONGKONG.

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that all MARINE INSURANCE OFFICES will be CLOSED for the Transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on MONDAY & TUESDAY, the 11th and 12th instant.

By Order,
A. R. LOWE,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 8th February, 1918.

THE HONGKONG AND KOWLOON WHARF AND GODOWN CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE THIRTY-FIRST ORDINARY ANNUAL MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS will be held at the OFFICES of Messrs. Jardine, Matheson & Co., Ltd., on THURSDAY, 21st February, 1918, at NOON, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Directors and the Statement of Accounts for the year ending 31st December, 1917.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from MONDAY, 11th February, to THURSDAY, 21st February, 1918, BOTH DAYS INCLUSIVE.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
W. S. BROWN,
Secretary,
Hongkong, 4th February, 1918.

NOTICES.

LANE, CRAWFORD & CO.

ENGLISH MADE

GOLF SHOES

FOR LADIES & GENTLEMEN.

CLIMATIC CONDITIONS HAVE BEEN CAREFULLY CONSIDERED IN THE MAKING OF THESE SHOES AND WE RECOMMEND THEM FOR COMFORT AND DURABILITY.

NETTLETON SHOES.

- FOR THE MAN OF FASHION -

Tel: NEW MODELS Tel:

692 FOR THE RACES. 692

JUST TO HAND

- CALL AND INSPECT THEM -

J. T. SHAW

- SOLE AGENT -

NEXT DOOR TO THE HONGKONG HOTEL.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN

that the Ordinary Yearly Meeting of the Shareholders in this Corporation will be held at the CITY HALL, Hongkong, on SATURDAY the 23rd day of February, 1918, at Noon, for the purpose of receiving the Report of the Court of Directors together with a Statement of Accounts for the year ending the 31st December, 1917.

The Register of Shares of the Corporation will be CLOSED from MONDAY, the 11th February, to SATURDAY the 23rd February, 1918, (both days inclusive), during which period no transfer of shares can be registered.

By Order of the Court of Directors,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, 5th January, 1918.

SINGAPORE DOLLAR DIRECTORY IS BOOMING!

Send in Name and Address NOW

For the 1918 issue of the HONGKONG DOLLAR DIRECTORY

Dollar Directory Company
P.O. Box 431, Hongkong.

CAST IRON RAINWATER PIPES AND FITTINGS.
FRANK SMITH & CO.
4, DES VOUX ROAD, CENTRAL.
TEL. 2050, HONGKONG.

KEROSENE OIL

We guarantee all kerosene oil sold by us to be pure and unadulterated.

Present price—

"WHITE ROSE."

\$5.55 per case ex store.

"COMET."

\$5.35 per case ex store.

CHUNG CHEONG
188, Des Voux Road Central,
2 blocks West of Cent. Market.
KWONG YUEN
19 Des Voux Road, West.

NOTICES.

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

NOTICE.

ON and after 16th February, 1918, the hours for the transaction of business by the Hongkong Savings Bank will be 10 A.M. to 12 NOON every week day except SATURDAYS.

The Savings Bank will not be open for business on SATURDAYS or on and after 16th February, 1918.

For the Hongkong & Shanghai Banking Corporation,
N. J. STABB,
Chief Manager,
Hongkong, 5th February, 1918.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LTD.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE NINETY-EIGHTH ORDINARY MEETING OF SHAREHOLDERS in the Company will be held at the Office of the Company, Hotel Mansions, on TUESDAY, the 19th February, 1918, at 12 O'CLOCK NOON, for the purpose of receiving a Report of the Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts, declaring a Dividend and electing Directors and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company will be CLOSED from the 4th to 16th February, 1918, both days inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,
JOHN ARNOLD,
Acting Secretary,
Hongkong, 12th January, 1918.

THE HONGKONG & SOUTH CHINA WAR SAVINGS ASSOCIATION.

APPLICATION forms for Membership of the above Association may be obtained from all the Banks or from the undersigned.

THE UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF CANTON, LTD.

Honorary Secretaries & Treasurer,
Hongkong, 12th January, 1918.

WATSON'S COMPOUND BALSAM OF ANISEED

Gives immediate relief in all cases of

COUGH.

Price
50 cents and \$1.00
per bottle.

PREPARED ONLY BY
A. S. WATSON & Co., Ltd.
HONGKONG DISPENSARY.
Telephone 16.

Correspondents are requested to observe the rule which requires them to forward their names and addresses with communications addressed to the Editor, not necessarily for publication, but as an evidence of their bona fides. All communications intended for publication should be addressed to the Editor. Business correspondence should be sent to the Manager.

The rates of Subscription to the "Hongkong Telegraph" will be as follows:—Daily issue—\$36 per annum. Weekly issue—\$13 per annum.

The rates per quarter and per month, proportional. Subscriptions for any period less than one month will be charged as for a full month.

The daily issue is delivered free when the addressee is accessible to messenger. Peak subscribers can have their copies delivered at their residences without any extra charge. One copy sent by post an additional \$1.80 per quarter is charged for postage.

The postage on the weekly issue to any part of the world is \$1.00 per quarter.

Single Copies, Daily, ten cents. Weekly, twenty-five cents (for cash only).

Advertisements and Subscriptions which are not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded. (Payable in Advance.)

The "Hongkong Telegraph" is now on sale at, and will be delivered to subscribers by, the Dairy Farm Company, Ltd., Shameen, Canton, who have been appointed our agents there. By Order, "HONGKONG TELEGRAPH."

The Hongkong Telegraph.

HONGKONG, SATURDAY, FEBRUARY 9, 1918.

MIXED MARRIAGES.

A year ago, at the annual meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society, the Hon. Mr. Holyoak dwelt at some length on the evils of mixed marriages, instancing the tragic results which usually accrue when a Chinese husband returns to his country from abroad bringing a white wife with him. He even went so far as to advocate that it should be made illegal for this kind of thing to take place, further arguing that Britishers in all the great ports of the world should be warned of the dangers resulting from such unions. The subject is really one of international importance, and it is raised again because during the twelve months just ended the Society named has had to deal with more cases of the kind. For very good reasons it is not possible to indicate the nature of the action taken in these instances; suffice it to say that these mixed marriages nearly always involve consequences of the most regrettable character.

The objection to these unions between Asiatic men and white women does not rest on grounds of personal or racial prejudice. It is admitted that a Chinese who marries a European woman abroad may, and often does, make a good husband and a good father, but when he comes back to his own country (where the social and moral conditions are totally different), bringing his wife and offspring with him, the tragedy usually begins. That must be so from the very nature of things, and the evils are a thousand times intensified when the white woman is taken, as so often happens, into the interior, where she has a bitter awakening. The problem is one of the utmost seriousness, and for the sake of all concerned, it would be well if some really effective steps were taken to deal with it. The only way in which to cope with it is to tackle it at its root—preventive measures will alone avail. At this year's meeting of the Hongkong Benevolent Society an admirable suggestion was put forward—namely that a small brochure be drawn up containing extracts from the Society's yearly reports in relation to this question, and that these be widely distributed to various organisations, such as the Y. W. O. A., the Girls' Friendly Society, etc., as well as to ministers of religion in the United Kingdom and throughout the Dominions, showing the practical evils arising from such unions. This would certainly be a wise course to take, and it might well prevent a number of these unfortunate marriages.

There is one other aspect of this question, and that is the position of the children of such marriages. Whether these children turn out to be good or bad (and it is to be emphasised that they are not necessarily bad), they are generally more or less ostracised when brought out East from Home. More than that, they find that the educational facilities are by no means good in the Far East (far more is done for them in India than here), and thus they start life under an additional handicap. They are to be keenly sympathised with, since they are the victims of the system, but, at the same time, it is no use shutting one's eyes to hard facts. From whatever standpoint the matter is viewed, marriages of the type under notice should be discouraged rather than otherwise, and if the public only knew the sorry tales which could be told by the officers of such an organisation as the Hongkong Benevolent Society in this connection, they would not rest until every means had been taken to limit the evils of this most serious social problem.

English Instruction.

In practically all of the school reports which have been published in the course of the past week or so, reference has again been made to the teaching of English and to methods that might be adopted for an improvement in this important matter. It has been realised that the mere learning of the language from a text book is extremely inadequate and that more attention should be paid to the colloquial side. All who have come in contact with Chinese students find that there is an immense difficulty for a student to give expression to his everyday thoughts, for when he essays to hold converse he is largely limited to "book" English, and loses by his ignorance of modern idioms. Text-book English is, of course, the only proper basis on which to begin, but if a student of the language, especially one who seeks to make it the medium of conversation, knows only this, he is very poorly equipped indeed. The difficulty of overcoming this is by no means small. Most of the boys only speak Chinese in their homes and get few opportunities to supplement their instruction in school, and for the most part the students are so conscious of their weakness in expression as to fight shy of conversing with English-speaking people. The Englisher so often given that the boys should converse in English between themselves as often as possible is excellent, but, until some scheme is evolved whereby students will have simpler opportunities for systematic and studied conversation, it is almost futile to hope for any great improvement in the standard of English one hears spoken by student Chinese.

A Worthy Object.

We are sure that a great many people in the Colony wholeheartedly appreciate the motives of one of our readers who on Thursday sent us particulars of the appeal from Sir Arthur Pearson on behalf of the National Institute for the Blind. In spite of the fact that the public generally has many calls upon its purse for war charities of various kinds, the suggestion that a fund should be started through the medium of our columns, should meet with a ready response. If there is one class of soldier more than another who is in need of all the sympathy and practical assistance he can get from those who are in a position to render it, it is he that has sacrificed God's greatest gift—his eyesight. With Sir Arthur Pearson at the head, the National Institute for the Blind is carrying on a splendid work, but for which our many soldiers and sailors who have been blinded in the war would be in a more sorry position even than they are to-day. One has only to peruse the pages of the booklet which the Institute circulates, to realise that it is doing a most beneficent work in teaching the unfortunate that come under its wing to adopt useful callings, which will in some measure help them to forget what they have given up in this terrible war. The reader who sent us the information expressed his willingness to open the fund with a donation, and if any inducement were required to appeal to the public this should suffice.

The Future of Chinese Women.

There can be no doubt that Chinese women are destined to play a greater part in the public life of their country than they have done in the past. Gradually they are coming to the fore, and we can see evidences of that fact in Hongkong, where the Ladies' Benevolent Society is showing the way in a most useful work which Chinese women would do well to copy. The good educational work that has been done in past years among Chinese girls is now bearing fruit, and gradually we see the women of China taking their rightful place alongside men. Quite apart from political activities, with which, in the opinion of many, the less women have to do the better, they are taking a growing interest in social questions. The time must come, we think, when Chinese ladies will be associated with the management of the Police Leung Kuk in Hongkong, whose usefulness would undoubtedly be enhanced by their assistance in handling the many social problems with which this organisation has to deal.

DAY BY DAY.

AN INFINITE OF TENDERNESS
IS THE GIFT OF THE HEART.
—THE TRUTH OF THE GREAT
MEN.—Ruskin

To-morrow's Anniversary.
To-morrow is the second anniversary of the appointment of Dr. Bileborough as Archbishop of Cardiff.

The Dollar.
The opening rate of the dollar on demand today was 2s. 11.5/8d.

No Issue.
Monday being Chinese New Year's Day, there will be no issue of the Telegraph on that date.

The Races.
The Grand contains traffic regulations to be observed on days fixed for the Races.

Exempted.
The Indian Museum Society has been exempted from registration under the Societies Ordinance.

The Bishop.
The Bishop of Victoria will to-morrow preach at 11 a.m. and address a children's service at p.m. at St. Andrew's, Kowloon.

Kailan Output.
The total output of the Kailan Mining Administration's mines for the week ending January 26, amounted to 70,185 tons and the sales during the period to 61,902 tons.

Alice Memorial Hospital.
The Hon. Treasurer begs to acknowledge with thanks the following donations to the funds of the Hospital:—Poultry Dealer's Guild, \$200. Mrs. Tam (for X-Ray Fund), \$200.

Land Sale.
Inland Lot 2258, Causeway Bay, is to be sold by auction at the P.W.D. Office on the 28th instant. The lot comprises 13,188 square feet, and the upset price is \$8,572.

January Weather.
During January, the average mean temperature was 54, the highest being 68.7, on the 13th, and the lowest 42.0, on the 9th. There were 24.9 hours of sunshine and 0.01 inch of rain. The average humidity was 46.

Postcard Rates.
It is notified that on and after the 15th February, 1918, the rate on a single postcard despatched from the Colony of Hongkong to any Chinese Post Office or British Postal Agency in China is 13 cents.

Defence Corps Appointments.
His Excellency the Governor appointed Captain M. S. Northcote (Retired list) to the command of "D" Company of the Hongkong Defence Corps, and Captain Cyril Champkin (late Calcutta Rifle) to be a Captain in the Hongkong Defence Corps.

Police Promotions.
Crown-Sergeant Davis, who has been Acting Inspector for a considerable time, has now been promoted to the rank of full Inspector. Lance-Sergeant Glendinning and Lance-Sergeant Bond have been made full Sergeants.

Echo of Murder Trial.
The two prisoners who were sentenced to death at the Criminal Sessions just concluded for the murder of the accountant of the Po On Insurance Company, in Wing Lok Street, appeared before Mr. J. B. Wood at the Police Court this morning and were discharged in connection with the charge of robbery which had been preferred against them.

Passports Necessary.
The following is published for general information:—"It is notified by the Chinese Authorities that foreigners entering ports of Kwangtung will be required to produce passports or equivalent documents. Permanent passes and permits to enter Hongkong with photographs attached, issued by the Captain Superintendent of Police, will be accepted as credentials."

Supreme Court Vacation.
The office of the Supreme Court will be open daily from 10 p.m. to 1 p.m. during the Chinese New Year Vacation, except on Public and General Holidays, when the office will be entirely closed, subject, however, to the provisions of Section 5 of the Supreme Court (Vacations) Ordinance, 1893, so far as it relates to the Criminal Sessions. The Chinese New Year Vacation commences on the 15th February and terminates on the 15th February, 1918. (Both days inclusive.)

CORRESPONDENCE.

(The opinions expressed by correspondents are not necessarily those of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

CROWN COLONIES AND INCREASED PRODUCTION.

(To the Editor of the "Hongkong Telegraph.")

Sir,—Early in the present year a body called the Empire Resources Development Committee was formed in London. Its Chairman was the late Rt. Hon. Sir Starr Jameson, Bt., G.B., Chairman of the British South Africa Company. Its Hon. Secretary is Mr. H. Wilson Fox, M.P., one of the Directors of that Company. The other members include gentlemen prominent in political, financial or social life. Four are members of the British Government.

It is not easy to state the proposals of the Committee in exact terms. They have varied from time to time. In all of them, however, so far as we have been able to discover from speeches by members of the Committee and literature issuing from its Publications Department, two features are included. The first is that the British Government should set up in the Crown Colonies a body of concessionaires, business men paid partly by commission and enjoying a privileged position before the law, who should carry on industries in those Colonies on condition of returning a percentage of the profits, not to the Government of the Colony and for the benefit of the Colony, but to the British Government, in reduction of the war debt. The second is that a beginning should be made with this policy in West Africa. As persons intimately connected with the last-named country venture to address you on these proposals. There seems to me no reason for this inasmuch as no member of the Committee, so far as we can learn, has personal experience of, while few, if any, are even indirectly connected with, West Africa.

There is nothing in the present condition or prospects of British African Colonies to justify this new policy, which is simply a return to the old "Plantation" system, in which dependencies were looked upon as estates to be exploited for the benefit of the more vigorous governing country. In the past the attempt to secure profit for the State at the expense of weaker races has everywhere failed, and in the present advanced state of intelligence in our African Colonies would inevitably produce discontent.

The policy is also at variance with the history of our own moral development, which involves the ultimate relation of Africans to the white races; it lowers our standard of justice, and is a negation of the established principle of "Equality of Opportunity."

The system of government which has grown up in West Africa under the administration of the Colonial Office has had certain broad results. The greatest is profound political peace, which continues even in such a testing time as this. Subsidiary results are steady increases in exports and imports, with consequent benefits to British manufacturers. The native producers, thanks to increasing wants met by increasing production, thanks also to the patient efforts of the Colonial Governments, especially the various Agricultural Departments, are continually increasing the quantity and improving the quality of their output. As proof of this we may quote the recent statement of the Administrator of the British Zone of Occupation in Togoland, that during the first year of our occupation the land put under cultivation was greater by one-third than that in the last complete year of German rule; the statement by Sir Hugh Clifford, K.C., M.G., Governor of the Gold Coast, that "Cocoa cultivation in the Gold Coast is in a purely native industry"; and the statement by the Colonial Secretary, the Rt. Hon. Walter Long, in the House of Commons last month, that in West Africa "the supply of palm kernels and the palm oil brought forward by the natives during the

war is considerably greater than the amount for which it has hitherto been possible to provide freight."

The central principles of the policy which has had these results are absence of forced labour, observance of the natives' laws and customs, and freedom of trade.

It is obvious that these elementary, vital principles would be profoundly modified, if not reversed, if the policy of the Empire Resources Development Committee were to be applied. Land being held by the tribe in common in West Africa, it follows that, in practice, bodies enjoying special governmental privileges cannot be set up without involving interference with the natives' land and labour. The concessionaires would be identified with the government in the native mind. It is significant in this connection to notice that the unfortunate fact that four members of the British Government are on the Committee is taken by the native press of West Africa—every organ of which condemns the proposals as an utterly indefensible attack upon private right—as an indication that the policy of the Committee is the policy of the British Government. We believe that such an impression is as groundless in fact as it is injurious to the fair fame of Great Britain; and we readily bear testimony to the fact that whenever a Minister representing the Colonial Office has referred to the Committee's proposals, his language, like Mr. Long's above quoted, has been unfavourable to the Committee's project.

There is a further reason for calling attention to this matter at the present time. If the forces and civilian populations of the Allied nations are to be properly fed during a prolonged war, it is urgently necessary that the important food stuffs coming from West Africa should be largely increased. From this point of view nothing could be more harmful to Imperial and Allied interests than a propaganda which shakes the confidence of the producers in the root-principles of British Administration.

Our French Ally, faced in French West Africa with a precisely similar situation, has dealt with it on lines the opposite of those suggested by the Empire Resources Development Committee. A circular just issued by His Excellency the Governor-General sets forth that:—"In order to meet the Mother Country's urgent needs the Ministry of Supplies purchases the whole of the crops of French West Africa. The Minister of the Colonies on his part undertakes to stimulate and intensify production wherever possible; and this he proposes to do by paying the producers largely and loyally, the object being to produce, and produce largely, and it therefore is necessary to interest the producer; by frequent visits of political officers to the producing areas; by encouragement of merchants; and by absolute non-interference in buying or selling by the Government directly."

It is our conviction that adoption of a like policy in British West Africa will lead to the best possible results.

We are, &c.,
W. NICHOLL, Chairman
R. V. OROCK, Secretary
The Association of West African Merchants,
14, Castle Street,
Liverpool,
Dec., 1917.

Hotel Guests' Jewels.

At Bow-street Police Court, recently before Mr. Garrett, May Marjorie Macdonald, 33, describing herself as a "companion," of 21, Rhyndale-street, Knightsbridge, was charged on remand with stealing and receiving a rope of pearls and various articles of jewellery, valued at £1,114 10s., the property of Mrs. Harold Phillips, of Rutland-gate, Knightsbridge, from Almond Hotel, Clarendon-street, W., and a pearl necklace and other property, of the total value of £18, the property of Miss Nellie Lavy, from the Waldorf Hotel, Aldwych. Two additional witnesses having been examined, the accused was again remanded, it being intimated that further charges against her would be preferred.

TO-DAY'S MISCELLANY.

Something almost as marvellous as the blossoming of the Pope's staff in "Tannhauser" has happened in Ascension Island. That volcanic rock has a surface that varies only from bottle glass to coals. Rain rarely falls, and few herbs grow. But this year the rain fell abundantly, and a strange, tall grass grew. It spread like a blessing and covered the rocks as in the tale of Flower. Happy horses on Ascension wallowed in real grass for the first time in their lives. The amazed islanders got into communication with Kew, Kew reported, gave the grass a learned name, and suggested that the seed come on the wings of the south-east wind or on those of the sooty tern, who haunts that part of the island where the welcome grass was first seen. It is a desert grass, easily walked about, and found in many regions of desert Africa.

The importance of being porky. A London butcher created a sensation recently by chalking on his plate glass window: "Fifteen pigs will arrive to-morrow from Taunton, Devonshire (sic). Orders may be booked now." People hastening to the window read the legend with agitation and wonder. There seemed a wish then and there to form a queue in readiness for the morrow. But surely those pigs would have stirred in their cerements had they known that their city of origin, reminiscent of Perkin Warbeck, Admiral Blake, Judge Jeffreys, and others famous, and infamous, had been pushed by a butcher's pencil into Devonshire.

If the Paris Press is well-informed the Allied armies will shortly be rendered invisible by means of a method of "obliterative colouration" invented by a French officer the year before the war broke out. At that time the colour scheme was considered of no practical use, as the military experts were agreed that rival armies would fight each other at such extreme distances that they would rarely see each other. Now that the trenches are separated by only a few yards the value of the invention has been recognised, and "invisible" troops and artillery are to be the next marvel of this marvellous war.

"It cannot be made, it shall not be made, it will not be made; but if it were made, there would be a war between France and England for the possession of Egypt." So said Lord Palmerston, in 1852, with regard to the then proposed Suez Canal. Nevertheless, it is the forty-eighth anniversary of the inauguration of the forbidden waterway. The first fleet of ships, consisting of 40 vessels, passed through next day, on November 17, 1869. The greatest draught was only 16 ft. How many of those who participated in the inauguration survive? The Empress Eugenie is one.

Perhaps it is unkind to comment at all on the retirement of Mr. Justice Bidley, says the *Manchester Guardian*. The courts certainly will be duller without him. When he was on the bench there was always the possibility of "some" copy for the reporters. No judge, perhaps with one exception, has been more often abused and with greater heartiness. He was so consistently criticised for wrong-headedness that one finally had the feeling that he must be right. He was one of the few judges to wear a beard—a pointed white beard, which seemed to suit a spiky personality. His thin, quavering voice was always rising in content with counsel, and no man, old set himself so consistently to achieve unpopularity who was not possessed of a sturdy personality. It is certain that no judge in recent times was more successful in evading praise. He was a legal character of the old-fashioned type, and many students were told of him when law was met. One of the best of the latter class concerns an appeal from one of his decisions. "This my Lord," he said, "is a judgment of Mr. Justice Bidley." "Oh," said the student, "that would be referred to."

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SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	1 Kamo Maru Capt. Shimidzu T. 16,000 1 Iyo Maru Capt. Takano T. 12,500	WEDNES., 13th Feb., at 11 a.m. WEDNES., 20th Feb., at 11 a.m.
SHANGHAI, Kobe and Yokohama	1 Kitan Maru Capt. Cope T. 16,000	THURS., 7th Mar., at 11 a.m.
NAGASAKI, Kobe and Yokohama	1 Tango Maru Capt. Akamatsu T. 13,500 1 Taiso Maru Capt. Ogawa T. 8,000	FRIDAY, 15th Feb., at 11 a.m. SATURDAY, 16th Feb.
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KOREA MARU	18,000	9th Mar.
SIBERIA MARU	18,000	22nd Mar.
TENYO MARU	22,000	9th April.
NIPPON MARU	11,000	16th April.

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SHANGHAI	Suiyang	10th Feb. at noon.
SWATOW & BANGKOK	Taming	12th Feb. at daylight.
SHANGHAI	Sinkiang	14th Feb. at 3 p.m.
SHANGHAI	Shunlien	16th Feb. at 3 p.m.

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SHANGHAI	Wingsang	Fri., 15th Feb. at daylight.
MANILA	Yuensang	Fri., 15th Feb. at 3 p.m.
HAIPHONG	Loksang	Sat., 16th Feb. at 7 a.m.
SHANGHAI	Taisang	Sun., 17th Feb. at daylight.
SANDAKAN	Mausang	Thurs., 21st Feb. at noon.
MANILA	Yousang	Fri., 22nd Feb. at 3 p.m.

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SHIPPING NEWS.

Substitute for Coal.

Owing to lack of tonnage and the consequent difficulty of securing coal and its high cost, which has risen to as much as £25 per ton, the Khedivial Mail Steamship Company has resorted to burning cottonseed cake in its engineering workshops at Alexandria. Cottonseed cake is used normally as a cattle food and fertiliser.

R. M. S. P. Dividend. The Court of Directors of The Royal Mail Steam Packet Company has resolved to pay out of the profits of the current year an interim dividend for the half-year ended June 30 last, at the rate of 5 per cent. per annum (less income-tax) on the preference stock, and an interim dividend at the rate of 4 per cent. per annum (less income-tax) on the ordinary stock, being at the same rate as in the last two years.

Negligent Navigation.

In the Commercial Court, before Mr. Justice Darling and a Special Jury, the China Mutual Steam Navigation Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, claimed £3,305 damages from the Port of London Authority in respect of injuries sustained by plaintiff's steamship Polyphemus, while entering the East India Dock on Nov. 16, 1916. The defendants denied negligence. After hearing evidence, and the judge had summed up, the jury, after taking an hour to decide, found that there was negligence on both sides. Thereupon Mr. Rigby Swift, for the plaintiffs submitted there should be another trial. His Lordship said he could tell how the jury was divided. Mr. Rigby Swift said that he had a shrewd suspicion himself, His Lordship—I know and you know, so, like the Augurs, we will be content with what we both know. Mr. Inskip—I do not know. His Lordship (to Mr. Inskip)—If you did know you would be eleven times as happy as Mr. Rigby Swift. Suppose I decline to enter judgment, you cannot, either of you, go to the Court of Appeal. I think this is a case in which somebody ought to take an opportunity of going to the Court of Appeal. I will enter judgment for the defendants. Mr. Rigby Swift—And your Lordship will give me a stay? His Lordship—Oh, yes.

A Commission Claim.

In the Commercial Court, before Mr. Justice Bailhache, Messrs. Harley and Co., of Billiter-street, E.C., and Messrs. G. Cassady and Co., Ltd., of Liverpool, sued Mr. S. Nagata, of Osaka, Japan, to recover commission alleged to be due as brokers under a charter-party dated Oct. 20, 1916, for a period of 12 calendar months to the Templeman Shipping Company, of New York, at the rate of £10,010 per calendar month in advance in London. In this the ship, the Nagata Maru, was lost and earned no hire, and defendant, through his agents, Messrs. Shaw, Adams and Co., refused to pay the brokerage commission, contending that it was a custom to return commission when hire was not earned. His Lordship so found, and gave judgment for defendant, with costs.

Gazette.

Mr. W. Brennan has been appointed second officer, Kiang-kwan. Mr. L. Berner has been appointed second officer, Hain-fung. Mr. A. Erlanson has been appointed second officer, Kiang-teen. Mr. H. J. Colloff, chief officer, Chiyuen, is on leave. Mr. S. A. Philippo, from leave, has gone chief officer, Fengtien. Mr. J. Legge, chief officer, Fengtien, is on reserve. Mr. E. B. Flak, acting chief officer, Liangchow, is on reserve. Mr. J. Richards, chief officer, Hainchow, has gone chief officer, Hainchow. Mr. R. S. Pentney, second officer, Honam, has resigned. Mr. W. R. Williams, from leave, has gone chief officer, Wosang. Mr. E. B. Smith, chief officer, Wosang, is on reserve. Mr. F. O. Everett, from reserve, has gone chief officer, Suwo. Mr. B. L. Stephen, chief officer, Suwo, is on reserve. Mr. E. L. Hurley, second officer, Tungshing, is on leave. Mr. J. F. Nicoll, from leave, has gone supernumerary chief officer, Chipping. Mr. E. A. Thompson, erroneously reported last week, chief officer, Hupoh, has gone second officer, Tungshing. Mr. J. Webster, chief officer, Chingchow, has resigned. Mr. O. H. Turner, chief officer, Kinshan, is on leave. Mr. F. Williams, second officer, Kinshan, has gone chief officer, same ship. Mr. J. R. Thorpe has been appointed chief officer, Paul Bean. Mr. E. Frandsen, chief officer, Paul Bean, has resigned. Mr. R. S. Pentney has been appointed second officer, Puenpenh. Mr. J. Frandsen has been appointed chief officer, Chingchow. Chingchow, Chingchow and Chingchow.

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CONSIGNEES

NOTICES.

TELEPHONE 1957 and 1968.

EARLIER TELEGRAMS.

(Continued from page 1.)

THE WESTERN FRONT.

Bad Weather Limits Operations.

London, February 7.
 Reuter's correspondent at the British Headquarters says: During the twenty-four hour spell of finer weather there has been heavier hostile artillery, but to-day's soaking, with a westerly gale, again lessened the activity. The weather and the state of the ground are still unfavourable for grand operations.

Another British Raid.

London, February 7.
 Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We successfully raided eastward of Arras, taking prisoners. There is hostile artillery at Cambrai and Lens.

German Attack Fails.

London, February 7.
 A French communiqué reports most lively reciprocal artillery in the Charvigny, Porgny and Flain region, north of the Aisne, the sector of Samogneux, Hill 844, on the right of the Meuse and at Hartmannswiller. After a violent artillery preparation the Germans unsuccessfully attempted to penetrate our lines at Banholz in Alsace in two places.

Successful British Venture.

London, February 7.
 Field Marshal Sir Douglas Haig reports: We raided a post south-eastward of Quentilly and prisoner several of the garrison. We repulsed raiders westward of La Bassée. The enemy's artillery is active north-westward of St. Quentin, and eastward of Monchy Le Preux. Aeroplanes dropped over a ton of bombs on targets behind the enemy's lines. Two hostile machines were brought down and two of ours are missing.

PALESTINE AND EGYPTIAN CAMPAIGNS.

London, February 7.
 A Palestine official message states: Our aeroplanes on Sunday bombed camps at Husheh obtaining forty-seven direct hits. On Monday they dropped 1,900 pounds on the same objectives with thirty-seven direct hits. All returned. The Arabs at Hedjaz routed eleven battalions of Turks, eleven miles northward of Tafile on Jan. 6, killing 400 and capturing 300 men, two mountain guns, eighteen machine guns and 800 rifles. The Arabs on Jan. 25 successfully attacked a Turkish post on the eastern shore of the Dead Sea. Only forty Turks escaped and sixty Turks were captured.

GERMANS ANGRY OVER VERSAILLES COUNCIL.

Amsterdam, February 7.
 The Berlin Pan German newspapers are most angry at the Versailles Council communiqué, which is declared as the enemies' answer to the German strikers. They accuse the strikers of prolonging the war by exciting hopes in enemy countries. A meeting of Socialists was addressed by Herr Scheidemann, and passed a resolution demanding a definite declaration by the Government on war aims, and the acceleration of domestic reforms.

ZEEBRUGGE AGAIN BOMBED.

Amsterdam, February 7.
 The "Telegraaf" states that during a recent aerial attack on Zeebrugge forty bombs were dropped near the Kommandantur and others greatly damaged the barracks. The Germans at night time on Feb. 3, brought down one of their own machines near Heyst killing the pilot.

THE MACKAY DISASTER.

Brisbane, February 7.
 A relief party has reached Mackay with food. There are numerous instances of terrible privations, especially in the surrounding districts. The town itself is completely and indescribably devastated.

OBITUARY.

London, February 7.
 The death is announced of the Rev. W. J. Knox Little, Canon of Worcester and author of many religious and other publications.
 The death is announced of the Marquis of Dufferin and Ava, who has served in the Foreign Office since 1896, having previously served at Constantinople, Paris and Stockholm. His heir is Lord Basil Blackwood.

FOREIGN LOANS.

A Warning by the Chinese Government.

The following translation of a note addressed by the Wai Chiao Pu to His Majesty's Minister is published in the Hongkong Government Gazette for general information:

Peking, January 19th, 1918.

Sir, Agreements of any description affecting the sovereign rights of public property of the country which may be concluded by the officials, merchants and people of China, with foreign merchants, as also foreign loans made by other than State-owned railway concerns, in any province, or by mining concerns, are all invalid unless made with the consent of the Central Government. Further, if salt merchants pledge salt certificates as security for foreign loans the Government will be unable to recognize such transactions. This Ministry wrote to the various Foreign Representatives on March 23rd, July 25th, Aug. 31st and September 13th, 1912, asking them to issue instructions to this effect to merchants of their respective nationalities. It is now again reported that the provinces often illegally print

BANK RETURNS.

The returns of the average amount of bank notes in circulation and of specie in reserve in Hongkong, during the month ended 31st January, 1918, as certified by the managers of the respective Banks are:

Banks.	Average in Amount.	Specie in Reserve.
Chartered Bank of India, Australia and China.	\$ 6,975,965.	\$5,000,000.
Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.	\$22,172,839.	17,000,000.
Merchants Bank of India, Limited.	\$ 1,147,285.	550,000.
Total.	\$30,296,089.	\$22,550,000.

* Sterling Securities deposited with the Crown Agents valued at \$150,000.
 † Securities with the Crown Agents \$110,000.

bonds or pledge mining property to foreign merchants as security for loans. I must now therefore again declare that any illegal foreign loans of this description, not made with the consent of the Central Government, are invalid.

In informing Your Excellency of the above I have the honor to request that you will issue similar instructions to merchants of this effect and avail etc.
 (Signed) The Wai Chiao Pu.

COMPANY MEETINGS.

The Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd.

(VERBATIM)

The twenty-ninth ordinary meeting of shareholders of the Kowloon Land and Building Co., Ltd., was held this morning at the offices of the Company, Victoria Buildings, Mr. T. F. Hough, president and there were also present:—Messrs. J. Rodger, and T. E. Pearce (Directors), A. Shelton Hooper (Secretary), M. S. Northcote, H. Percy Smith, and J. H. Seth (shareholders).

The Secretary read the notice convening the meeting.

The Chairman said:—It being past the hour for which the meeting has been called, we will proceed with the business. With your permission I propose to take the report and accounts as read. The year under review has been quite satisfactory both in our increased revenue and a decreased expenditure. Our rent accounts have increased from \$17,697.83 to \$21,302.20 and interest account from \$63.38 to \$108.88 whilst the charges were reduced from \$649.11 to \$388.70 and our repairs account shows a reduction of 1,000.51. This satisfactory state of affairs enables your Directors to recommend the payment of a dividend of \$2.50, as against \$2 per share for the previous year and to carry forward \$1,908.56, as against \$991.44 brought forward from the last account. With these remarks, gentlemen, I beg to propose the adoption of the report and accounts.

Mr. Seth:—I have much pleasure in seconding that.

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, you have heard the proposition put forward by myself and seconded by Mr. Seth—that the report and accounts be adopted. Will you please vote on that? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Percy H. Smith:—Mr. Chairman, I beg to propose the re-election of yourself and Mr. J. Rodger as directors.

Mr. Northcote:—I beg to second that.

The Chairman:—You have heard the proposition put forward by Mr. Smith and seconded by Mr. Northcote. I should be obliged if you would vote on that. On the contrary? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Pearce:—I beg to propose that Mr. Percy Smith be re-elected auditor for 1918 at a remuneration of \$50.

Mr. Rodger:—I beg to second.

The Chairman:—You have heard the proposition put forward by Mr. Pearce and seconded by Mr. Rodger. Will you please vote on that? Contrariwise? Carried unanimously. Dividend warrants can be had on application. Thank you for your attendance.

The Hongkong Hotel Company.

An extraordinary general meeting of the shareholders of the Hongkong Hotel Company was held at the Hotel this morning. Mr. A. O. Lang presided and there were also present Sir Ellis Kadoorie, Messrs. J. Scott, J. H. Taggart, (Secretary), B. Wylie, S. D. Somkh, W. Logan, E. M. Raymond, Fung Tat-heng, P. C. Potts, M. Mann, and Shu Po-sham (shareholders).

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, it now being past the hour for which this meeting has been called, I will request the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary then read the notice, which included the following resolution:—

That the Articles of Association be altered in manner following:—

(a) By the deletion of the word "twice" in the second line and the word "Half" in the fourth line of Article No. 55.

(b) By the deletion of the word "Half" in the first, seventh and last lines; the substitution of the word "meeting" for "meetings" in the eighth line; and the insertion of the word "an" between the words "at" and "ordinary" in the seventh line of Article No. 81.

(c) By the deletion of the word "Half" in the third

and fifth lines and the substitution of the word "an" for "the" in the third and fifth lines and the word "meeting" for "meetings" in the third and sixth lines of Article No. 62.

(d) By the deletion of the word "Half" and the substitution of the word "meeting" for "meetings" in the first line of Article No. 90.

(e) By the deletion of the word "Half" wherever appearing in Article No. 93.

(f) That the following clause be inserted in Article 107 after Sub-clause (p) thereof, namely, (p) a:—

(p) a. To employ the reserve fund for the time being, or any portion thereof in or for all or any of the following purposes, that is to say, in meeting contingencies, in equalising dividends, in paying special dividends or bonuses, in repairing, improving and maintaining any of the property of the Company, and in or for such other purposes as the Directors shall in their discretion think conducive to the interests of the Company.

(g) By the deletion of the word "half" in the fourth line of Article No. 111.

(h) By the deletion of the word "half" in the first line of Article No. 125.

(i) By the substitution of the word "Once" for "twice" in the first line of Article No. 129.

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, this meeting has been called for the purpose of altering our Articles so as to do away with the necessity of holding half-yearly meetings for which no necessity appears to exist. I think we are now the only Company which meets twice a year and the general view appears to be that it is not desirable that a Company should be under an obligation to publish its accounts twice during the year. You will appreciate that a yearly meeting will relieve the staff of a good deal of work which is really unnecessary and will relieve us from the necessity of troubling the shareholders to come here twice a year. Advantage has been taken of this opportunity to add to the Articles a clause specifically setting out the directors' powers of dealing with the Reserve Fund which is in a common form and will be considered to be of advantage both to directors and shareholders.

Gentlemen, I accordingly propose that the Articles of Association of the Company be altered in accordance with the terms of the resolution which the Secretary read over to you a short time ago and I shall be glad if some shareholder will kindly second that.

Mr. Logan:—I have much pleasure in seconding the resolution.

The Chairman:—Before putting the resolution to the meeting, I shall be glad to hear if anyone has any objection to offer or an amendment to propose, as if so now is the time to bring same forward.

Mr. Potts:—I should like to know whether dividends will still be paid half yearly as before?

The Chairman:—Yes.

Mr. Scott:—This only does away with the meeting, and does not interfere with the dividends.

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, it has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Logan that the resolution which you have heard read be passed. Those in favour? Against? Carried unanimously. That is all the business, gentlemen; thank you for your attendance. A confirmatory meeting will be held at an early date, at which shareholders will be duly notified.

Hamphrey's Estate and Finance Co., Ltd.

The ordinary annual general meeting of Hamphrey's Estate and Finance Co., Ltd., was held this morning at the Hongkong

Hotel. Mr. Henry Humphreys presided and there were also present:—Messrs. J. Scott, J. Hough, A. O. Lang, W. L. Patterson, (Directors), G. Rapp (Secretary) and C. B. Bayers, M. S. Northcote, H. Percy Smith, A. R. Samy, and W. Morley (shareholders).

The Chairman:—Gentlemen, as it is now past the hour for which this meeting has been called, I will ask the Secretary to read the notice convening the meeting.

The Secretary having read the notice,

The Chairman said:—Gentlemen, the report and statement of accounts and auditors' certificate having been in your hands for the last ten days, I propose with your permission to take them as read. The accounts before you show an improvement on the past three years and would have been better still but for the fact we are now having to pay more interest on borrowed money than formerly. Other expenses are also heavier than usual. The increase in repairs of \$1,828.19 is due to increased cost of materials owing to the war. The increase in legal expenses of \$2,623.80 may be regarded to a large extent as non-recurring. The major part of the increase was incurred by Court and other proceedings in connection with Yue Foo's mortgage, the equity of redemption of which has been acquired by the Company so that the property formerly mortgaged to us now belongs to us. The increase of \$1,134.60 in Insurance Reserve Fund represents the amount of expired fire insurance risks underwritten by ourselves. Sales of property and the transfer of Yue Foo's mortgage have effected the changes shown in the accounts under the liability headings of "Mortgages" and "Sundry Creditors" and the asset headings of "Amount invested in Property" and "Mortgages and Loans." I trust you will approve of the transfer to Typhoon and Floods Insurance Account of \$2,643.65, which makes this fund up to \$30,000, and that the donation of \$2,500 to War Charities will meet with your sympathetic approval. I have no further remarks to make, but after the accounts have been duly seconded I shall be pleased to answer any questions shareholders may have to ask.

Mr. Northcote:—I have much pleasure in seconding the adoption of the report and accounts as presented, and in doing so to congratulate the management on the improved state of affairs.

The Chairman:—The motion has been proposed and seconded and if any questions are asked will try to answer them. It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Northcote that the report and statement of accounts as presented be passed. All those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously. I now beg to propose that the retiring directors Messrs. J. Scott, J. Hough, A. O. Lang, W. L. Patterson, and Dr. J. W. Noble, be re-elected for the ensuing year.

Mr. Percy Smith:—I have much pleasure in seconding that, Sir.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by myself and seconded by Mr. Percy Smith that the directors, whose names I have just read, be re-elected for the ensuing year. Those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously.

Mr. Morley:—I have much pleasure in proposing the re-election of Messrs. Percy H. Smith and O. Bernard Brown as auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$200 each.

Mr. Bayers:—I beg to second that.

The Chairman:—It has been proposed by Mr. Walter Morley and seconded by Mr. C. B. Bayers that Messrs. Percy Smith and O. Bernard Brown be re-elected auditors for the ensuing year at a remuneration of \$200 each. All those in favour kindly hold up their hands. Against? Carried unanimously. That concludes the business, gentlemen; dividend warrants are now ready and can be had on application at the office of the Company. I thank you for your attendance.

HONGKONG TRADE.

Chamber of Commerce Report.

The Fortnightly Price Current and Market Report, published by the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce under date of February 8, contains the following:—

Cotton Piece Goods and Fancy Cotton Goods.—During the interval a fair enquiry for staples has been in evidence but only a moderate business has resulted at prices considerably below replacing values and there is little prospect of approximation in the near future.

Cotton Yarn.—The Bombay market has continued its upward movement but Hongkong has not been able to follow it to a full extent though prices have improved by \$8 for low and \$3 for high counts. Quotations are:—No. 10s at \$158/198. No. 12s at \$172/195. No. 16s at \$193/208. No. 20s at \$216/248. Arrivals 3,500 bales. Sales 1,580 bales. Shipments nil. Unsold stock 2,000 bales. Bargains 13,000 bales.

Raw Cotton.—Quotations are slightly easier via Indian Cotton at \$50/57 and the China descriptions at \$52/61 per picul.

Woolens.—Market dead, no enquiry and few clearances.

Flour market report.—Sack: About 290,000 sacks. Quotations: Japanese 2nd Patent \$3.55 per sack; Japanese 3rd Patent \$3.45 per sack; Japanese Straight \$3.50 per sack; Shanghai Flour \$3.55 per sack; Australian Flour \$3.55 per sack.

Metals.—Business continues very quiet.

Sugar.—Market active at advanced rates.

THE MURDER TRIAL.

The Prisoner Found Guilty.

The Criminal Sessions sat until 6.30 o'clock last night to conclude the case in which Fung Tim, in the employ of the Po On Insurance Co., was indicted for the murder of the accountant of the Company.

The jury eventually found the prisoner guilty, adding a strong recommendation for mercy.

On hearing the verdict, prisoner wept and protested his innocence. In the course of a long statement, he said:—"I did not do this all. I am innocently implicated. I am wronged. All the time that I have been employed I have never done anything wrong. I have never cast an evil eye on other people's belongings. If I were guilty I must confess. But I did not do it. By implicating me in this, not only does trouble fall on me but upon my family. My father is old and my wife is young and if I die the whole of my family will be extinct. It is a most cruel thing to deprive the whole of my family of any living person."

His Lordship:—This sentence that the law compels me to pass on you is one of death. The jury has also made a recommendation of clemency in your favour and I shall forward that expression of their opinion to His Excellency the Governor.

Sentence of death was then pronounced.

POLICE RESERVE ORDERS.

Orders issued to-day by Mr. F. C. Jenkin, D.S.P. (R.), state:—

Special Service Squad.

Members except those on duty will meet at Headquarters Club at 5.30 p.m. on Thursday, February 14th.

Names of applicants are to be submitted by Inspectors on Wednesday the 13th instant.

Musketry Course, Part I.

The whole of No. 3 Company is provisionally warned to fire Part I on Sunday, February 17.

BADGES OF HONOUR.

Chevrons for Overseas Service.

The Secretary of the War Office has issued the following announcement:—

As Mr. Macpherson announced in the House of Commons, a chevron or chevrons (to be worn in uniform) will be issued to every soldier who serves overseas in a theatre of war.

Soldiers who entered a theatre of war in 1914 will be given a red chevron, and those whose service in a theatre of war began after 1914 will be given a blue chevron. A soldier will become entitled to wear a chevron as soon as it may be practicable to issue it to him after he enters a theatre of war.

An additional chevron (blue) will be given for each aggregate of 12 months' such service. Thus, a soldier who has served, for example, in France for 12 months will receive two chevrons, and for 24 months three chevrons, and so on.

The above will apply to officers as well as other ranks.

Only service on full pay will be reckoned as qualifying service for this purpose. Detailed regulations on the subject are being framed, and will be issued in due course.

When Mr. Macpherson announced on August 18 that chevrons were to be issued for service at the front he stated that the scheme had not then assumed definite shape, and the above announcement indicates that the original plan has undergone some variation. The Under-Secretary for War stated in his speech that it was proposed to give a chevron of a distinctive colour to the men who went abroad in 1914, and a chevron of another colour to men who since that date had served in any theatre of war for at least six months, this period to include their normal leave and time spent in hospital. A separate chevron was to be given for six months' overseas service. From the new War Office announcement it will be seen that the award of the blue chevron is no longer made conditional on six months' service abroad, but the decoration is earned as soon as the soldier enters a theatre of war. Twelve months' service is now made the condition of the award of a second chevron. Under the scheme now described a soldier who landed in France with the original Expeditionary Force and has been serving at the front up to the present time would receive a red chevron and three blue ones. In addition, those who landed for service in France or Belgium during the critical phase of the war up to and including the first battle of Ypres, which ended on November 17, will receive the distinctive decoration with riband, concerning which an announcement was made previously.

Sugar.—Market active at advanced rates.

Metals.—Business continues very quiet.

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FOLLOWING THE TANKS.

A Battle Story from the West Front.

"Z" writes as follows:—One of the first arrivals in this country from the Cambrai battle was a lad from Yorkshire. He had been wounded by a machine-gun bullet after advancing three miles into the enemy country, but he was full of merriment over the exploit of his regiment and not a little proud of what he and his comrades had done. His chief regret seemed to be that he was knocked out before the rush was stopped.

"You know what it's like just before an attack. You can't help being sort of jumpy, though you'd be sorry to admit you're not the wind up, for it isn't that. We went up to the place we were to start the advance from, early the night before—not long after it was dark, and we lay in the little trench until light was breaking in the morning. You know the kind of rumours that go about the trenches before a push. Well, the air was thick with them. Some of us had been in the Somme and other pushes and the great idea was that the barrage there were nothing to the one we were to see next morning. The German line was going to be a complete wash-out, some said, and we were just going to pick up the bits that were left. Then some said we weren't going to have any preliminary bombardment at all—we were just going to follow the Tanks.

"We lay and waited and though our officer just told us we were to get up and follow the Tanks, somehow we couldn't help expecting the bombardment every minute. But the light began to come up, you could see the chap next you getting more and more distinct, grey-like, you know, first of all; then you could spot his face and see the stubble on his chin. Still no bombardment—just a gun or two banging off somewhere away down the line made the morning seem all the quieter, a fine morning it was though it looked uncommon like rain. There we were, waiting for the preliminary bombardment. It didn't come. Only about five in the morning, the Germans seemed to get the wind up and let off a blatter of guns. We thought that they had found out something was due to happen, but the firing died down.

"It must have been after six—I can't be sure because I had lost my wrist watch—when one of our big chaps let off a big gun. I mean. Just solemn-like, made you think of the person, somehow. 'Broomp!' just like that, and you could fancy him wagging his head after the cough. Then another let off—another—another—then a few together—then the whole line took it up—just a great long roar. Machine-guns began to cough 'em out, and when I looked over the top of the trench, the whole German line was smoking. Fritz began to throw up rockets in distress.

"Then clatter-me-batter along come a Tank. You know, I've seen them lots of times, but I couldn't help laughing, and all the chaps were grinning, too. Two sailed past us, one on the left and another on the right, quicker than I'd ever seen them before. They sat on the first German trench and cleaned it out.

"Mr.—Our officer, he was grinning like the rest of us. He never blows a whistle or anything. He just stands up and gives a quiet nod of his head; sideways, as if he was saying, 'Come on, boys.' We were all watching him for the word and over we goes and the best of luck. You know the kind of thing. But this was different. It was a kind of picnic. The German wire was flattened out, driven into the ground. It's funny how you can't help noticing things—I saw one of these cork crew wire-stakes driven clean into the ground like with a hammer, just the eye at the end of it half out. It was a Tank did that.

"I'm a bayonet man and I was gripping my r.f. like mad, very tight, you know, but there was no chance of using my spiker in that first trench. There wasn't any Fritz left and what there was held up their hands right

away. We left them to the chaps whose job it was to look after them.

"Our tanks were sailing on in front and I saw one on the left go clean over a machine-gun emplacement. It was just a little round of concrete sticking up out of the ground and I think the Tank must have crushed it, because the chaps on the left just gave it a look in passing. The German guns were putting over some stuff, but not enough to stop us or our Tanks. Very few of us were hit by artillery, fire though the Fritz machine-guns hit a few. We were held up now and then by a pill-box and had to get down and bomb it—no chance for me there—but in a little bit of trench in the second line we had a tidy fight. I had a chance with my bayonet then, but old Fritz gave in before we got properly warmed up. There were a few snipers about, too, and sometimes we had to wait a bit until the chaps on our flanks took a machine-gun or so. It was funny to see us getting up and doubling after our Tanks after we had been held up a bit.

"We were laughing and singing behind the Tanks and we'd gone a tidy distance when we came up to the village, Graincourt, they call it. By that time we'd passed the German batteries and the chaps on my right had collared a fair-sized gun. They had to rush it and get amongst the gunners first with bombs and then with the bayonet. It was a squatter sort of gun, like a frog, must have been a 'how'. Our tanks just sailed up the village street and we'd a good fight dodging along the streets round corners and that. But Fritz was anxious to go and on the whole he didn't face up much.

"We got into some sort of German head-quarters in the village, all done up with electric light and with pictures on the walls. You could see that Fritz had left in a hurry, because the place was littered with papers and that, and even in one of the rooms we came on a half eaten breakfast. When some other chaps came into the village we left it and made to the North—for Anzeux, I'm told. I didn't get far from the village Graincourt, before something got me in the shoulder, either a sniper or a machine-gun. It was a tidy whack I got, but I was eager to get along with my pals. After a bit my arm got useless and I came over queer-like. My sergeant saw me drop and he told me to get back to the village. It was no good anyhow, I couldn't have used my bayonet, so I got back in a bit.

"A stretcher-bearer did my shoulder up for me and told me the bullet had got the bone, so I reported to an officer in the village and said I was available for taking prisoners back. I came back with four and one of them that could speak English told me he thought the Germans were done. He couldn't get over it how we'd beat up the Siegfried Line, he called it. I think he's about right, don't you?

LADY WHO SAVED DISPATCHES.

Captain Wilson Tells a Dramatic Story.

One of those stories that delight moving picture audiences was told recently at Middlesex Guildhall. The story in this case, however, had the advantage of being a real chapter of submarine war.

When Captain Stanley Wilson, M.P., carrying important dispatches to the British Government from Athens in November 1915, was captured by a German submarine, one of his dispatch bags was saved and reached London through the plucky action of an American lady passenger on the steamer.

The fact was brought to light before the military court of inquiry as to whether any blame was attachable to Captain Wilson, who was recently released by the Austrian Government.

Captain Wilson read a long statement describing the difficulty he had in reaching Athens from Rome, eventually travelling by a Greek vessel, the Adriatic. He

arrived at the Piræus on December 3, delivered his dispatches to Sir Francis Elliot, the British Minister at Athens, and was entrusted with further dispatches to take back to London. He left Athens on December 4, the boat arrived at Patnos at 11 o'clock the following morning, and did not leave till 5 o'clock on the morning of December 6. That afternoon the vessel was stopped by an enemy submarine.

He went back to his cabin, intending to destroy his dispatches, but on the way met an American lady who he knew was in charge of a military hospital in Grosvenor-square and whose son he knew at Cambridge.

She asked him what he intended doing with the dispatches, and he said, "I am afraid I must throw them overboard." She replied: "I should like to do something for England, I am an American subject, and they are safe in my cabin. Leave them to me and I will see that they arrive."

It was a great responsibility, but he took it, and his action was justified, for those particular dispatches were sent to Rome and reached London through the hands of Sir Rennell Rodd.

Another bag of dispatches which Sir Francis Elliot had told him would sink if thrown overboard, he did throw overboard but to his horror they floated. He knew it was no good trying to sink any more, and therefore hid them in his cabin. (These dispatches reached London.)

He and his companion, Col. Napier, were then arrested and conveyed in the submarine to Castel Nuovo and kept in prison for two days. At the end of that time they saw the submarine lieutenant, who told them that the captain had been ordered to return, and Captain Wilson believed that it was for the purpose of searching for the dispatch boxes he had thrown overboard.

The captain was, unfortunately, successful in his search, for some weeks later, in January, he found the particulars of the dispatches quoted in the German and Austrian papers.

Sir Francis Elliot, who occupied the position of his Majesty's Minister at Athens in 1915, said he remembered Captain Wilson's visit there. He (Sir Francis) quite appreciated the fact that it was not desirable that Kings' Messengers should travel on Greek boats, but there was no other means of transport.

Captain Lord Hloebster, of the Coldstream Guards, a King's Messenger, gave evidence saying that he was in Athens about this period, and on his return met Captain Wilson. It was a very trying time, as the dispatches were most important. While he himself was in Athens he had told Sir Francis Elliot that he did not consider it was safe for officers to travel with the dispatches in Greek boats, Athens being full of spies who would inform the German Legation at once when King's Messengers arrived or departed.

Colonel Dick, commander of the King's Messengers at the War Office, said, in reply to Captain Wilson, that he had formed the impression that Captain Wilson had not carried out the instructions given to him by witness, but rather as if he had acted on instructions from the War Office.

Captain Wilson handed the witness a copy of the instructions received by him from the War Office ordering him to proceed from Messina to Athens by the first available steamer, and asked him, "Could I have disobeyed those orders?"

Witness: I think you should have followed my instructions, and gone to Malta, and this you failed to do. You ought to have taken all the circumstances into account, and have realised the danger of going to Athens by ordinary steamer. He made no charge against him, but Captain Wilson had deliberately disobeyed instructions given to him by witness.

The inquiry then proceeded in private, and was afterwards adjourned.

Pillaging on Ship.

Pillaging on board ship was very serious, said counsel in a case at West Ham. The Atlantic Transport Line had had to pay £1,000 for goods stolen on one voyage.

A PAGE OF THE PAST.

Napoleon's Campaigns in Italy.

At the time of the Revolution, the French military authorities conceived the idea of striking at their opponents through Northern Italy, all of which, with the exception of Piedmont, was then held by Austria. For this purpose the Army of Italy, formed of the National Guard, was assembled in the south-eastern corner of France and placed under the command of Massena and Augereau. By the beginning of 1796 this army was firmly established in foothills of the Maritime Alps. A few weeks later Napoleon was posted to command it, and on March 29, 1796 he inspected his command at Nice.

The French troops, including reserves, amounted to some sixty-five thousand men, the Austrians and Piedmontese, under the command of Beaulieu, numbered all told about sixty thousand. The latter held the main line of the Apennines, but a rapid move on the part of Napoleon caused them to retire, and from that time the campaign resolved itself into a series of battles for the passage of the various rivers that flow from North to South across Northern Italy.

On April 26th Piedmont submitted, and the Austrians took up an advanced defensive line upon the Po about Piacenza, defending Lombardy. Napoleon attacked here in the first week of May, succeeded in effecting a crossing, and pressed on towards the main hostile defensive position on the Adda, some fifteen miles further to the North. Swinging to the left, he attacked the chief bridge head at Lodi on May 10th, pushed his army across the river, and entered Milan almost without opposition on the 14th.

Lombardy had fallen to the invader, it only remained to the Austrians to take steps for the defence of Venice, their remaining Italian province. Beaulieu took his stand upon the Mincio, on the line Peschiera-Mantua, his right resting on Lake Garda his left upon the Po. By this time the French had advanced to the line of the Oglio, which they crossed on May 30th, and invested Mantua without serious resistance.

At this stage Warmer was appointed to succeed Beaulieu, and endeavoured to relieve the latter who was besieged in Mantua. His troops were defeated by the French at Lonate, ten miles west of Peschiera, on August 3rd, and on the 5th he was himself defeated at Castiglione, between Mantua and Peschiera, and was driven beyond the Mincio. He then retreated into the Tyrol, and took up a position across the valleys of the Adige and Brenta, with his right resting upon Treviso, and his left upon Bassano.

The French under Massena advanced against the Austrian right wing, following the valley of the Adige. On September 3rd they entered Ala, and on the 5th Trent was secured. Warmer endeavoured to cut their communications by marching down the valley of the Brenta, but Massena followed him up, defeated him at Bassano, and drove him into Vicenza. From here he managed to make his way to Mantua, where he was duly invested in his turn.

During the Autumn the situation remained practically unchanged, with the Austrians in possession of Mantua and Verona. On November 17th Napoleon won the battle of Alcolea, but the campaign took no definite step forward until the next year. On January 14th 1797, the French attacked the Austrians at Rivoli, on the Adige some twenty miles north-west of Verona, and occupied the latter town. Mantua surrendered on February 3rd, and the Austrians were soon in full retreat towards the Tyrol. Napoleon swept on towards the East, and crossed the Tagliamento on March 16th. By the middle of April the war was practically over, and peace was finally signed at Campo Formio, about five miles south-west of Udine, on October 17th.

The active campaign had lasted just a year, during which period the Austrians had been completely

PEER'S HEIR AND ACTRESS.

Lord Queensberry's Son and a Gaiety Star.

Another romance of the stage and peerage is contained in the announcement that the Marquis of Queensberry's eldest son and heir, Viscount Drumlanrig, has married the actress Miss Irene Richards.

Miss Richards is a clever and beautiful girl of nineteen, who has played leading parts in "Theodore and Co." at the Gaiety Theatre, and in "Mr. Manhattan" at the Prince of Wales Theatre. Viscount Drumlanrig is a lieutenant in the Black Watch. He has been on active service throughout the war, and was wounded last September. His age is twenty-one.

He married Miss Richards at St. Mark's, Regent's Park, and in the evening the bride and bridegroom and the Marquis of Queensberry occupied a box at the Gaiety.

Viscountess Drumlanrig is the daughter of a wealthy London millowner, Mr. H. W. Richards. She made her first success when she was only twelve—as a mimic at the London Hippodrome. She then returned to Paris to resume her education, and was there trained in singing by Jean de Beers.

Her abilities attracted the attention of Mr. Edward Laurillard, who gave her Miss Irene Hoey's part in "Mr. Manhattan" during Miss Hoey's illness. Afterwards at the Gaiety she played a leading part.

She also made a striking success in a vocal and dramatic recital which she gave at the Aeolian Hall last May, an event which realised £300 for St. Dunstan's Hostel.

ly driven from Italy. But the political position of France was not strong enough to enable her to keep all that the sword had won, and by the terms of Campo Formio, Lombardy was restored to Austria, and the Army of Italy was posted in the territories of Venice, a measure that rounded the death knell of that Republic.

But Napoleon had merely deferred his plans for the conquest of Italy, and three years later, in the Spring of 1800, he once more crossed the Alps, marched through Piedmont, encountering but little opposition on the way, and again invaded Lombardy. He occupied Milan, the Austrians offering no serious resistance, but concentrating their forces about Alessandria, with a view to holding the line of the Tanaro. But Napoleon, as usual, was too quick for them. His passage of the Alps had taken them by surprise, the swiftness of his advance across Piedmont anticipated their belated measures of defence. On June 14th 1800 he attacked at Marengo, a village three miles east of Alessandria, and inflicted a crushing defeat upon the Austrians. This one battle decided the campaign. Following his own strategy of three years earlier, Napoleon swept westward, crushing all opposition by the rapidity of his advance, and secured the whole of the Northern Italian plain for France, who, at the conclusion of the peace that followed this swift campaign, was left in possession of Lombardy and Venice.

Napoleon's two invasions of Northern Italy were from the West, but they none the less illustrate the strategic conditions of the terrain. An Army invading the country against an invader finds the only practicable defensive positions along the rivers that flow from the Alps to the sea. The true strategy of the defence, therefore, is to select the line of one of these rivers, and to force a deployment of the attack and to delay his advance.

If the relative strength of the armies is such as not to warrant a stand being made, the defence can then retire to the next river-line, and repeat the process. It was only the mastery of Napoleon, and the inconceivable stupidity of his opponents that allowed him to sweep so rapidly across the country as he did.

ROYAL TOUR IN THE WEST.

The Women Workers of Bristol.

Bristol, Nov. 8.—The King and Queen began to-day a short tour in the West of England. Their object, just as it was when earlier in the year they visited Lancashire, the Tyne, and the Clyde, is to get into touch with the men and women who at the furnace, the lathe and the bench are playing an essential part in the war.

The royal train left London this morning at an hour when a white frost still sparkled in the early sunshine on country station platforms, and before lunch the King and Queen, who were attended by Lady Amphil, Colonel Olive Wigram, Lord Stamfordham, and Commander Sir Charles Ouse, had seen a national shell factory, spent half an hour watching the manufacture of tobacco, and, at the Council House in Bristol, had shaken hands and talked with a score of the representatives of the employees and workpeople of the district. To complete a busy day the King this afternoon has held an investiture on Durdham Downs and a visit has been paid to an extensive aeroplane factory. Tomorrow the Royal party go to Bath, Trowbridge, and Malkeham.

Before leaving Bristol the King sent the following letter to the Lord Mayor of the city:—

"The Queen and I thank you, my Lord Mayor and the people of Bristol, for the warm welcome given us on the occasion of our second visit to your city during the great war. We are glad of this opportunity to extend our acquaintance with the men and women of the district who are playing an active part in the world's struggle.

"It was a great satisfaction to me to meet representatives of employers and employed in the various trades. There is no desire nearer to my heart than that the same spirit of concord and good will that has united all classes in face of the common foe may in the days of peace bring harmony and efficiency into the industrial life of the nation."

A notable feature of to-day's interesting round has been that their Majesties have seen far more women than men at work. When last the King visited Bristol some two years ago the introduction of women's labour into industry was in the earliest stages of its development. To-day women are engaged in processes which at one time would have been regarded as entirely outside the range of their skill and physical powers. These girl workers are intensely loyal, and the pride and satisfaction they have taken in carrying on their duties under the eyes of the King have been shown by bright smiles, enthusiastic energy, and repeated bursts of shrill cheering. At the national shell factory the Royal party saw hundreds of smart young women in khaki overalls copper banding, varnishing, and painting 18-pounder shells collected from sub-contractors in half a dozen counties. Two million shells have already been delivered by the factory and the work goes steadily on.

The half-hour in Messrs. Will's factory was spent in an atmosphere fragrant with the scent of fine Virginia leaf. Three thousand people are employed in making and packing cigarettes and pipe tobacco at this one branch, and the "smoke" sent to the front alone from the factory represents a very considerable tonnage in the year. In the Woodbine room machines were seen at work throwing out cigarettes at a speed of 10 to the second, but by the machines stood sharp-eyed girls, who were quick to detect any faulty delivery. In other long clean rooms the visitors watched leaf tobacco pouring from shoots into cutting machines, much as trusses of corn are devoured by threshing machines at a farm, and saw men handle the cut leaf with forks as they might pitch hay on a stack. The boxing of cigarettes greatly interested the Queen, who often spoke to the girls at the benches and stopped for quite a time watching one young worker in a cream pinafore deftly slipping cigarette pictures

into the packets. Their Majesties were cheered all through the works, but the most dramatic greeting came in a great room where cigarettes are made by hand. As the King and Queen entered the room a buzz of excited conversation died down to silence, and this was maintained for several minutes. Then, without any given signal, every girl began to clap her hands. The clapping ended in a splendid round of cheering.

From the tobacco factory the party motored to the Council Chamber, where the Lord Mayor, Mr. Barclay F. Baron, made a number of presentations. These were more than usually interesting because the principle of recognizing equally the parts played by capital and labour in war industry was so strictly followed that employer and trade union leader were presented alternately all the way through the list. Mr. F. Sheppard, of the National Union of Boot and Shoe Operatives, the second man to go before the King, will tomorrow be elected as Lord Mayor of Bristol.

After the representatives of industry had been presented to the King, Mrs. W. E. Budgett, the hon. secretary of the Bristol branch of the Red Cross Society, was also presented. Since the beginning of the war 49,990 cases have arrived in Bristol in 283 ambulance trains. With removals, a total of 102,000 patients have been transported by the society.

The investiture in the afternoon took place in a thick mist of rain, but on the grassy sweep of the Downs fully 60,000 people had gathered to see the ceremony. There were 126 decorations to be conferred, and of these three were Victoria Crosses. The first recipient of the highest British military honour was Captain Angus Buchanan of the South Wales Borderers, a blind officer who had to be led to the platform of the pavilion by an attendant. A row of veterans of other wars and the other people within the enclosure raised a sympathetic cheer as Captain Buchanan stood before the King, and the cheer was echoed by the greater crowd in the distance, who, unfortunately, were too far away to be able to follow the proceedings closely. With the Victoria Cross Captain Buchanan also received the Military Cross.

Lance Corporal Frederick Room of the Royal Irish Regiment, had the Victoria Cross pinned on his breast for conspicuous gallantry in charge of his company of stretcher-bearers when the company was holding a line of shell holes under intense fire. The third Cross had been won by the late Second Lieutenant Hardy Parsons, of the Gloucestershire Regiment, and this was handed by the King to the lieutenant's father, the Rev. J. Ash Parsons.

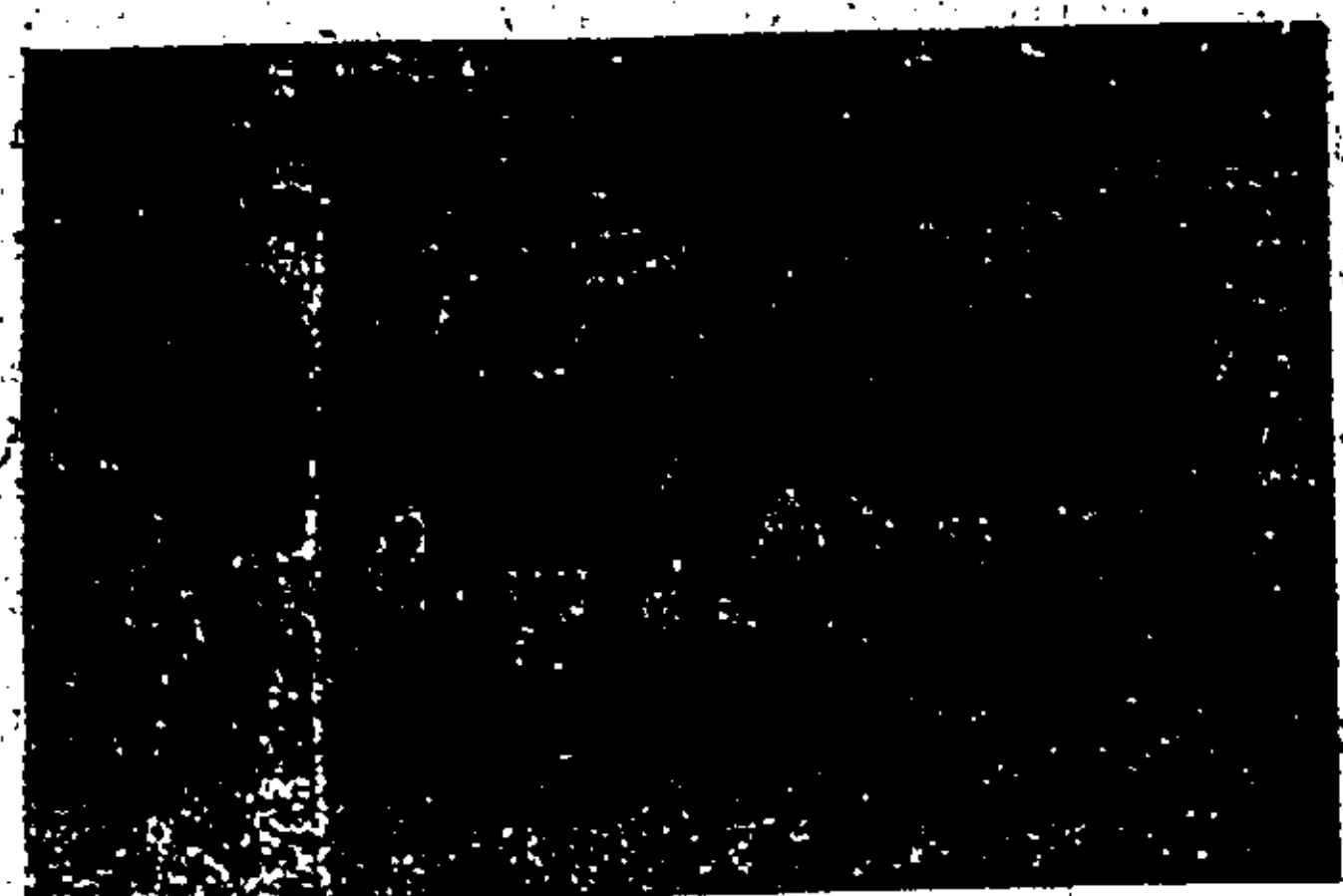
That sad but proud incident of the investiture, the passing of the decoration to the next of kin of a man killed in action, had to be repeated many times during to-day's ceremony. In one case a young widow came on to the platform with a tiny son in a pale blue coat clinging tightly to her hand. The King gave into the boy's keeping the Distinguished Conduct Medal won by his father, Company Sergeant-Major Lind, of the Hampshire Regiment. In addition to the medals conferred upon soldiers the King also presented the Royal Red Cross to more than thirty nurses.

The day's programme ended with an extended tour through an aeroplane factory some miles away from Bristol. Here was seen a wonderful picture of quiet but systematized and efficient activity. The majority of the workers at the factory are girls of selected intelligence and ability. They are well paid and they are already skilled in their normal work.

Baronet's Heir Killed.

While motor-cycling from Canterbury, Ser. Lieut. John V. Campbell-Orde, Camerons Highlanders, son of Sir Arthur Campbell-Orde, of Loch Gilphead, Argyll, collided with a military car, and was so injured that he died. He was 23 years old. At the inquest it was stated that he carried no light on his cycle, and it was presumed that owing to the bad state of the road he left his proper side.

DAIRY FARM NEWS.



OUR BUTCHERY DEPARTMENT

CAN

Supply Suitable Provisions for your

TABLE.

SEND FOR OUR PRICE LIST.

A SPECIALITY

for

SHIPPERS AND SHIPPING.

WE PUT UP

CORNER BEEF AND PORK

IN KEGS OR CASKS

FOR EXPORT OR STEAMERS' USE.

SMOKED THROUGHOUT THE WORLD

LE BOULEVARD DES ITALIENS
ET LE CAFE RICHE
PARIS

The Three Castles Cigarettes



JUST PURE RICH
MELLOW VIRGINIA
TOBACCO

The Cigarette with the Pedigree

IF YOU SMOKE A PIPE OF COURSE YOU SMOKE "CAPTAIN NAVY CUT."

CHINESE NEW YEAR HOLIDAYS.

Monday the 11th inst., being Chinese New Year Day, the Post Office will be entirely closed.

There will be no delivery or collection of correspondence from the Pillar Boxes. Non-Bazholders may, however, obtain their ordinary correspondence on application at the enquiry counter at the South-West of the building.

On Tuesday the 12th inst., the Post Office will be open from 8 to 2 a.m., and there will be no delivery and no collection of ordinary letters on Sunday.

The Money Order Office will be entirely closed.

The Parcel Post Services to British East Africa and Egypt (except for members of the Expeditionary Forces), and to Abyssinia, Bagdad, Ethiopia, French Somaliland, Italian Somaliland, Portuguese East Africa, Zanzibar and Russia have been suspended.

Correspondence addressed to enemy subjects in China, Siam, Siberia and Portuguese East Africa, Persia and Morocco cannot be transmitted.

The Services to Germany, Austria, Bulgaria and the Ottoman Empire are suspended.

Uninsured parcels for the United Kingdom will in future be forwarded from Hongkong in bags and the Public are advised to pack such parcels very carefully.

Letters franked at the 4 cents rate addressed to Yunnan and Mongolia and other places in the Province of Yunnan should be superscribed with the words "For delivery by the Chinese Post Office."

Parcels for Greece cannot be accepted for transmission unless accompanied by a special permit issued by the British Minister at Athens.

Arrangements have been made for the transmission of parcels to the United Kingdom via Canada.

The rates of postage are as follows:—
Parcel not over 3 lbs. ... 30 cents.
Do. 3 lbs. to 10 lbs. ... 50
Do. 10 lbs. to 20 lbs. ... 70

No insurance can be effected on parcels sent by this route.

IMPORT PROHIBITIONS.

The public are informed that the undenominated articles are prohibited from importation into the United Kingdom, either by letter post or by parcel post.

Gold manufactured or unmanufactured including gold coin and articles consisting partly of or containing gold; All manufactures of silver other than silver watches and silver watch cases; Jewellery of any description.

Letters and Parcels containing such articles cannot therefore be accepted for transmission by the Post Office.

The Parcel Post service to Aden (except in respect of parcels for military and naval addresses) has been suspended.

FRENCH PARCEL REGULATIONS.

The Public are informed that the new regulations adopted by the French Customs insist that senders of parcels addressed to France, Corsica and Algeria must fill in the columns of the regular Customs Declaration particularly and exactly, omitting none of the headings comprised therein.

It is furthermore absolutely necessary to show in the aforesaid declaration (1) The full name and address of the addressee (2) A statement as to whether the contents are intended for State supplies or not.

LOCAL AND REGULAR MAILS OUTWARD.

Tai O.—Week days, 5 p.m.
Tai Po.—Week days, 10 a.m.; Sundays, 10 a.m.
Cheung Chow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m. and 3 p.m.
Shatin, Shatin and Sheungshui.—Week days, 4 p.m.
Aberdeen, San Tin, Ping Shan, Sai Kung, San Tin and Stanley.—Week days, 4.30 p.m.
Canton, Samshui and Wanchow.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Macao.—Week days, 7.15 a.m., 1.30 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.
Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m. Except Saturdays; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Amoy and Swatow.—Week days, 4 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.
Shanghai.—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.

FROM SHINGWAN WESTERN BRANCH P.O.

Macao.—Week days, 7.10 a.m., 1.30 p.m.; Sundays, 8.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m., 1.30 p.m.
On 2nd.—Week days, 7.30 a.m.; Sundays, 9.30 a.m.; Holidays, 7.30 a.m., 9.30 a.m.
Tai Po.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.
Shatin.—Week days, 9.30 p.m.; Sundays, 9.30 p.m.; Holidays, 9.30 p.m.
Kowloon.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.
Amoy and Swatow.—Week days, 6 p.m.; Sundays, 5 p.m.; Holidays, 6 p.m.
Shanghai.—Week days, 10 a.m., 4 p.m.; Sundays, 9 a.m.

POST OFFICE.

WEATHER REPORT.

February 8d 11h. 15m.—No return from Japan, Vladivostok and India. China. Pressure has decreased slightly over N. China and increased slightly elsewhere. The anticyclone remains stationary, and fresh monsoon will prevail along the China Coast, and over the N. China Sea.

Hongkong Rainfall for the 24 hours ending at 10 a.m. to-day, 0.00 inch. Total since January 1st 00.2 inch against an average of 1.94 inches.

FORECAST FOR THE 24 HOURS ENDING AT NOON TO-MORROW.

District	Forecast
Hongkong to Gap Rock	N.E. winds, moderate to fresh; fair.
Formosa Channel	N. winds, fresh.
South coast of China between H.K. and Lamoo	The same as No. 1.
South coast of China between H.K. and Hainan	The same as No. 1.

China Coast Meteorological Register.

February 8 a.m.

Station.	Hour.	Barometer.	Temperature.	Humidity.	Wind.	Weather.
					D'f'n.	
					Force.	
Vostock	5a					
Nemuro	5a					
Hakodate						
Tokio						
Kobe						
Nagasaki						
K'agima						
Oshima						
Naha						
Ishijima						
Bonin Is.						
Whampoa	6a	30.24	39	83		0 b
Hankow						
Ichang						
Kiukiang						
Changsha						
Rhangshai		30.29	37	93	nne	1 r
Gustaf		30.16	38	100	n	2 cf
Sharp P.		30.10	48	87	n	1 o
Amoy		30.13	50	88	ne	1 o
Swatow						
Taihou	5a	30.10	55	84	e	4 b
Taihou		30.07	48			0 b
Taiwan		30.05	52		n	4 b
Koshu		30.07	53		ne	6 b
F'ormosa		30.07	53		nne	6 o
Hankow	6a	30.11	53	85	n	2 o
H'kong		30.09	55	85	e	3 o
Gap Rock		30.06			e	5 o
Macao		30.02	70	89	ene	1 cf
Wenchow	5a					
Pakhoi						
Hothow						
Shanghai	7a					
Tourane						
C. R. J.						
Apurri	6	29.93	70	74	ne	4 o
Dagupan		29.96	64	94	ne	2 b
Manila		29.95	73	79	ne	4 o
Legaspi						
San Juan						
Manila		29.81	72	91	n	4 o
Surigao						
Guam	4.30	29.84	75	ne	2 b	
Laudan	6	29.78	76	95	sw	2 b

C. W. JEFFRIES, Chief Assistant.

Hongkong Observatory, Feb 8, 1918.

1 Barometer, reduced to 32 degrees Fahrenheit on the level of the sea in inches, tenths and hundredths.

2 Temperature, in the shade, in degrees Fahrenheit.

3 Humidity, in percentage of saturation the humidity of air saturated with moisture being 100.

4 Direction of Wind, to two points.

5 Force of Wind, according to Beaufort Scale.

State of Weather, b blue sky, c drizzle, d drizzling rain, f fog, g gloomy, h hail, i lightning, e overcast, p passing showers, s squally, r rain, s snow, t thunder, v visibility, w dew wet.

METEOROLOGICAL.

Previous	Day	On date	On date
Barometer	30.15	30.09	30.08
Temperature	58	55	62
Humidity	81	85	81
Wind Direction	E	E	E
Force	3	3	3
Weather	o	o	c
Rain	0.00	0.00	0.00
Exp-on open sea	Temperature as at 7.15 p.m.	7.15 p.m.	7.15 p.m.
Lowest			

H.K. Observatory, Feb. 8, 1918.

T. F. CLAXTON, Director.

TIDE TABLE.

From 4th Feb. to 10th Feb.

Day	High Water	Low Water	Day	High Water	Low Water
4th	11.15	5.15	10th	11.15	5.15
5th	11.15	5.15	11th	11.15	5.15
6th	11.15	5.15	12th	11.15	5.15
7th	11.15	5.15	13th	11.15	5.15
8th	11.15	5.15	14th	11.15	5.15
9th	11.15	5.15	15th	11.15	5.15

ENTERTAINMENTS.

VICTORIA THEATRE.

PROGRAMME FOR FEB. 8, 9, 10 & 11, 1918.

TO-NIGHT 1 9.15 P.M. TO-NIGHT 1

"WHEN BABY FORGOT."

Pathe's Gold Rooster Play in 5 parts.

Featuring the little favourite

BABY MARIE OSBORNE.

A Screaming Comedy in 2 parts.

"LUKE MESSENGER"

Pathe's American Gazette.

LOOK OUT FOR THE OPENING DATE OF

"THE FATAL RING" & PEARL WHITE.

Booking at ANDERSON'S.

THE SOCIETY OF ST. GEORGE, HONGKONG.

"St. George's Day," 23rd April, 1918.

DRAWING OF WAR BONDS

IN AID OF WAR CHARITIES.

\$500,000 (HONGKONG CURRENCY)

or more or less according to subscriptions

PROSPECTUS

Tickets \$500. each.
Prizes to be paid in Bonds of the Hongkong Government 6% War Loan of 1916 (which may be redeemed at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation at par) and, in order to ensure that the scheme is productive of "new" money for war purposes, an equivalent amount of the prizes will be reinvested by the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation in new British War Loan Stock.

Of the net amount subscribed, 75 per cent will be distributed in prizes, and the remaining 25 per cent will be given to War Charities.

The amount to be distributed in prizes will be divided as follows:—

First Prize	50 per cent.
Second	15
Third	10
Numerous smaller prizes	25

Winning Tickets must be presented at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation, Hongkong during business hours.

Should any winning ticket not be presented before noon on the 23rd October, 1918 the ticket will be cancelled, and the value will be distributed amongst War Charities by the Committee of St. George's Society of Hongkong through the medium of the Hongkong War Charities Fund Committee.

The Drawing will be in public and the date and hour at which it will take place will be notified in due course by advertisement.

The sale of tickets will close in Hongkong on Saturday, the 13th April, 1918.

Any disputes arising will be decided by the Committee of the St. George's Society of Hongkong, whose decision shall be final. The names of the members of the Committee are:—

Hon. Mr. P. H. HOLYOAK, (President).	W. J. ELDRIDGE, Esq.
N. J. TABB, Esq. (Vice-President).	H. R. B. MANCOCK, Esq.
His Honour Mr. H. H. J. GOMPERTZ.	L. N. LEIFF, Esq.
G. S. ARCHEBUTT, Esq.	Hon. Mr. H. E. POLLOCK, K. C.
H. W. BIRD, Esq.	J. H. PAMRAY, Esq. (Hon. Treasurer).
C. MONTAGUE EDE, Esq.	JOHN BENTLEY, Esq. (Hon. Secretary).

Tickets and Books of Tickets can be had on application at the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation on and after a date to be announced shortly.

H. C. SANDFORD, (Hon. Treasurer).

CHAS. B. BEWICK, (Hon. Secretary).

St. George's "War Bond" Drawing.

NOTICE

BANK HOLIDAYS.

IN ACCORDANCE with Ordinance No. 5 of 1913 the EXCHANGE BANKS will be CLOSED for the transaction of PUBLIC BUSINESS on MONDAY and TUESDAY, the 11th and 12th instants.
Hong Kong, 6th February, 1918.

Printed and Published for the Proprietor, by George William Cade Barnett at 31, Ice House Street, in the City of Hong Kong.

NOTICE.

MASSAGE.

MR. HONDA.
Trained Massage.
Thirteen years experience.
Formerly of Tokyo Military Hospital.
WILL VISIT PATIENTS' RESIDENCES.
By Appointment.
No. 216 QUEEN'S ROAD, EAST.

VICTORIA REGATTA

16th FEBRUARY, 1918.

AT VICTORIA RECREATION CLUB.
Commencing at 1 p.m.

ROWING EVENTS.

THE SCULLS, INTER-CLUB PAIRS & FOURS.
POLICE RACE, NAVAL GIGS & WHALERS.
NATHAN CHALLENGE CUP, CHAIRMAN'S CHALLENGE CUP, DINGHY RACE, SAMPAN RACE & CHINESE CUP.

SAILING EVENTS.

HANDICAP CLASS, ONE DESIGN CLASS.
HEYWARD HAYES & CAEL CLASS RACE.
OPEN TO ALL CLASSES & CHINESE OWNED SAMPANS.

Admission ... \$2.00 & \$100.

LADIES FREE.

NOTICES.

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CHURCH SERVICES.

St. John's Cathedral, Hongkong.

Quinquagesima Sunday, 10th February, 1918. Holy Communion (7.50 a.m.) Hymns: 208, 162, 527, 512, 551. Service: Merbecke. Matins (11 a.m.) Responses: Feriat. Venite. Psalms: Felton. Epistle: To Drum: Woodward. Smart. Turle. Benediction: Garrett. Hymns: 211 (7.28), 255. God Save the King. Evensong (6 p.m.) Responses: Feriat. Psalms: as set. Magnificat: Smith. (7th morning) Nunc Dimittis: Monk. Hymns: 273, 287, 477. NB—Psalm 53 verses 1, 2, 7, 8, in union; Psalm 54 verses 1, 4 in union; Psalm 55 verses 1, 4, 6, 9, 14, 17, 23, G.P. in union. Practices for the "Elijah" start on Thursday next at 6 p.m.

Union Church, Kennedy Road.

Sunday Services, Feb. 10th. Morning 11. Hymns: 377, 585, 507, 237, 66. Preacher: Rev. A. A. Claxton. Evening 6. Hymns: 84, 271, 519, 17, 377. Preacher: Rev. T. H. Caren.

St. Peter's Church, West Point.

Sunday February 10, 1918. Holy Communion, 11 a.m. Morning Prayer and Sermon in the other Concessions will follow the example, says an exchange.

The Gospel Hall.—(No. 10 and 12 Pedder Street). Weekly Services:—Sunday. Breaking of Bread, 11 a.m. Gospel Meeting, 8 p.m. Tuesday, Exposition of Scripture, 8 p.m. Friday, Bible Class for Ladies, 5.30 p.m. Saturday, Prayer Meeting, 8 p.m.

Wesleyan Methodist Church, Wanchai.—Sunday Morning Service, 10.15 a.m. Sunday Evening Service, 6.15 p.m. Soldiers' and Sailors' Home, Arsenal Street.—Sunday Evening, Gospel Services 8 p.m.

St. Joseph's Church, Garden Road.—Mass and Sermon at 10 a.m. followed by the Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.

Roman Catholic Cathedral, Glen-ealy.—Low Masses at 6, 7, and 9.30 a.m. High Mass at 8 a.m. 5.30 p.m.—Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament.
First Church of Christ Scientist.—MacDonnell Road, Sundays, 11.15 a.m. Wednesdays, 5.30 p.m.

Registration of Servants.

The registration of Chinese servants is being given a trial in the French Concession, Tientsin. It is hoped that the authorities in the other Concessions will follow the example, says an exchange.